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NO, SO FAR EVERYTHING IS GOING WELL. NOTHING'S HAPPENED-- NOT EVEN A MINOR SET BACK. LAST TIME I TALKED TO THE ASTRONAUTS, AT LEAST--THINGS WERE RUNNING SMOOTHLY AND RIGHT ON SCHEDULE.

WELL, JUST KEEP AN EYE ON THEM. THIS IS A DANGEROUS MISSION--THAT'S WHY YOU'RE THERE.

I KNOW WHY I'M HERE. IF THEY LOSE CONTAINMENT--I HELP THE ASTRONAUTS INTO THE ESCAPE POD AND ZIP THEM BACK TO EARTH BEFORE THEY RUN OUT OF AIR. IT'S SIMPLE, CECIL-- THIS IS EASY.

EASY-- RIGHT. JUST KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN, WHO KNOWS WHAT'S OUT THERE-- AND FOR GOD'S SAKE-- AT LEAST STAND UP AND ACT LIKE YOU'RE READY TO SAVE THEM IF SOMETHING DOES GO WRONG.

I AM STANDING.

FINE, FINE, FINE.

I CAN SEE YOU, MARK. I'M LOOKING RIGHT AT YOU.

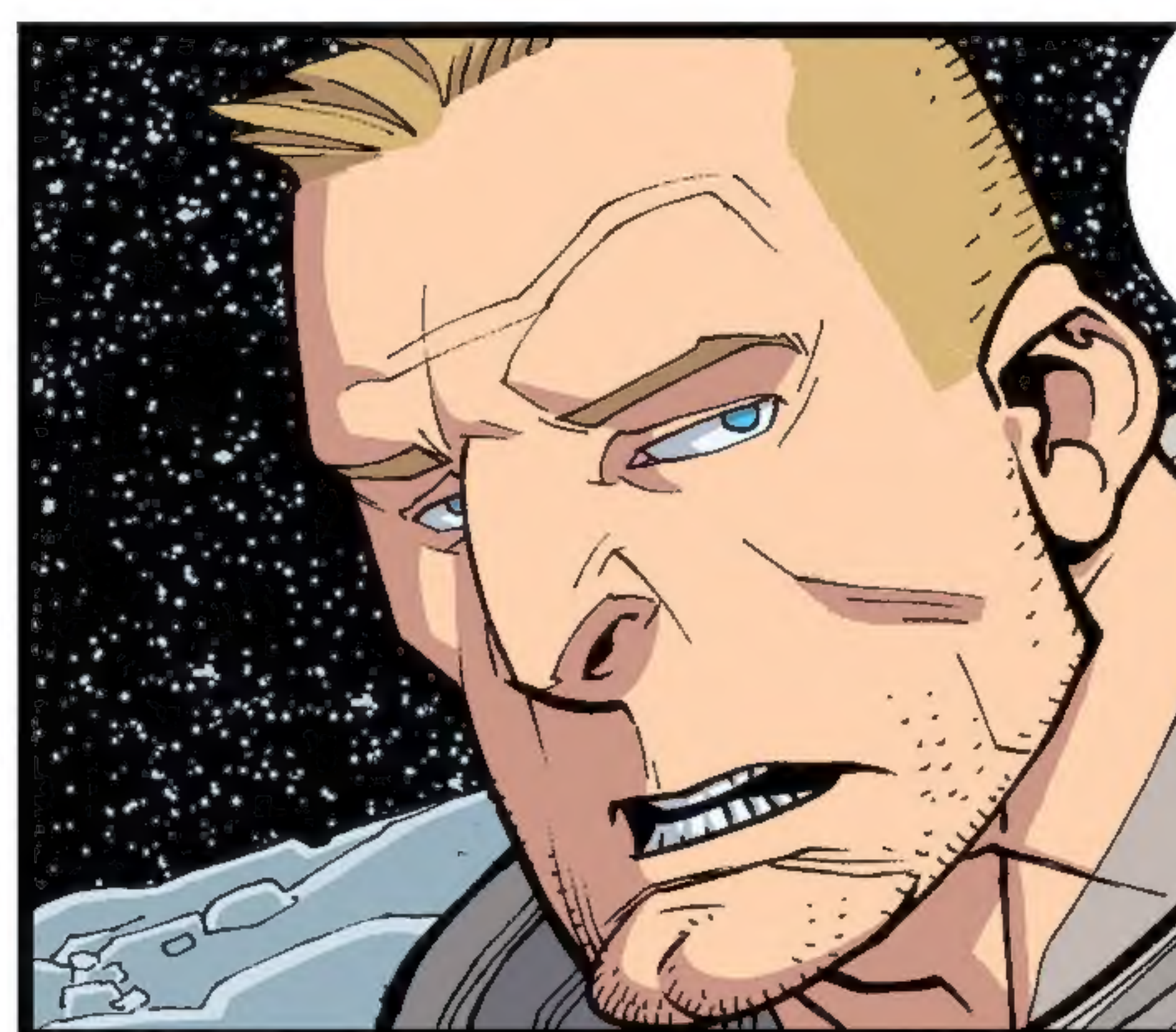


WHAT IS IT?
WHY ARE YOU
CONSTANTLY
STARING
AT HIM?

DO YOU
TRUST HIM? I
MEAN--REALLY
TRUST HIM? HE'S
ONLY HALF HUMAN--
AND HIS ALIEN FATHER
TRIED TO TAKE OVER THE
WORLD FOR HIS PEOPLE--
THE VILTRUMITES
OR WHATEVER THEY'RE
CALLED. DON'T
YOU REMEMBER
THE--

I REMEMBER
THE TRAGIC EVENTS
OF MARCH SIXTEEN.
HIS FIGHT WITH OMNI-
MAN WAS ALL OVER THE
NEWS FOR MONTHS.
ALL THOSE PEOPLE
DIED--IT WAS
TRAGIC, YEAH.

I'VE
BEEN TO THE
MONUMENT.



YEAH--HIS FATHER,
WHO WAS ONE OF OUR
MOST BELOVED HEROES,
OMNI-MAN, TRIED TO
TAKE OVER THE WORLD.
HIS FATHER KILLED
THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE
THAT DAY.

IF THAT'S
TRUE--INVINCIBLE
HERE WOULD HAVE
HAD SOMETHING TO DO
WITH IT. REGARDLESS--
THIS KID'S FATHER
WAS AN EVIL--
EVIL MAN.

THEN HIS
FATHER JUST
LEFT THE PLANET--
DISAPPEARED. OR
SO WE'VE BEEN LED TO
BELIEVE. YOU'VE HEARD
THE THEORIES--THAT
THE GOVERNMENT
STRUCK A DEAL WITH
OMNI-MAN--THAT
HE NEVER
LEFT.

BUT I'M
SUPPOSED TO
IGNORE THAT
AND TRUST THAT
THIS GUY IS GOING
TO SAVE ME IF
SOMETHING GOES
WRONG. I DON'T
TRUST THIS
KID--I JUST
DON'T.

YES--OMNI-MAN
TRIED TO TAKE OVER
THE WORLD--BUT
DON'T FORGET,
INVINCIBLE STOPPED
HIM. HE SAVED
US ALL THAT
DAY.

HE
TURNED
AGAINST HIS
FATHER--AND
PROTECTED US.
YOU HEARD THE
RECORDING OF
THEM TALKING
DURING THE FIGHT.
INVINCIBLE
DIDN'T BACK
DOWN.

THE
KID'S
GOT MY
TRUST.

AND DIDN'T YOU SEE
THE PARADE? HE
JUST STOPPED SOME
BIG ALIEN MENACE
FROM REACHING
EARTH AND TAKING
OVER.

NOW HE'S
HELPING US
PUT AN OUTPOST
ON THE MOON SO
WE CAN MONITOR
FOR MORE SPACE
BORNE THREATS
BEFORE THEY
REACH US.

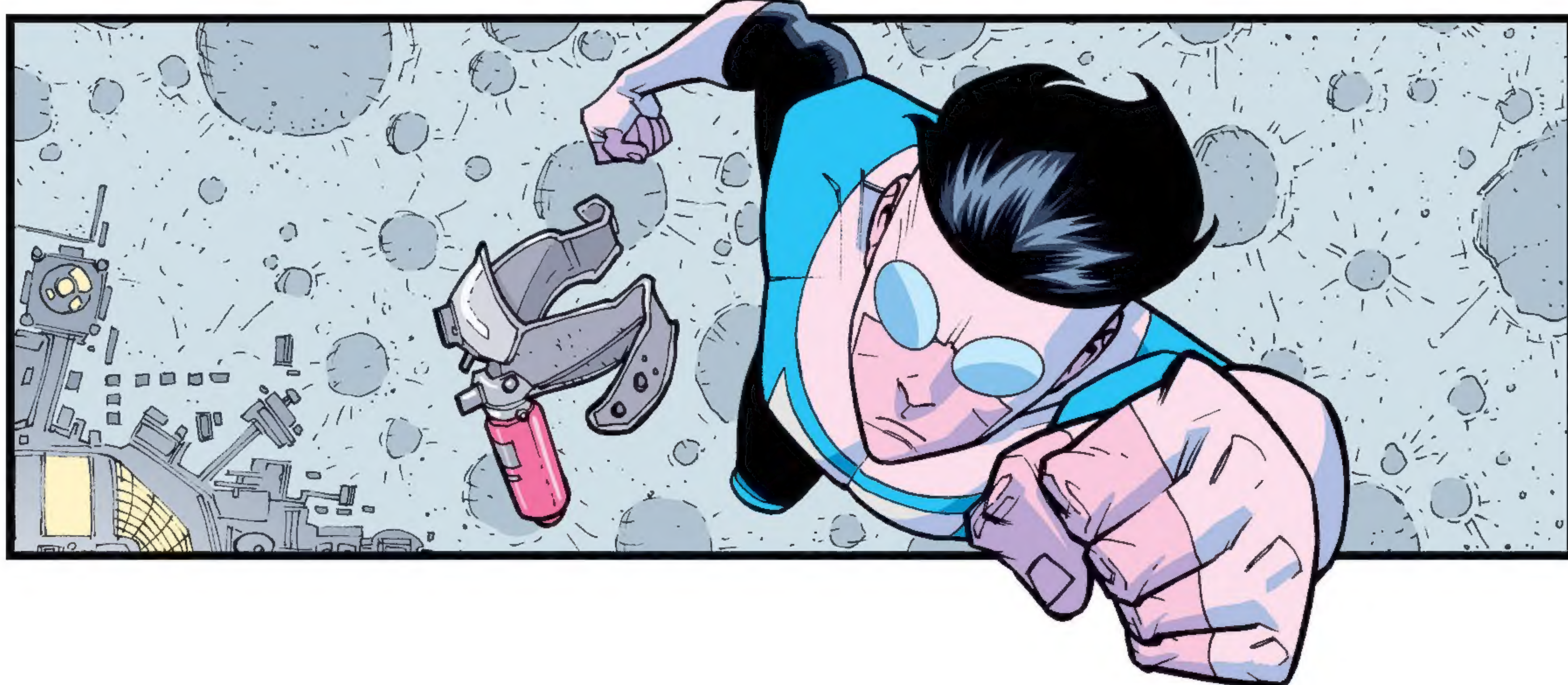
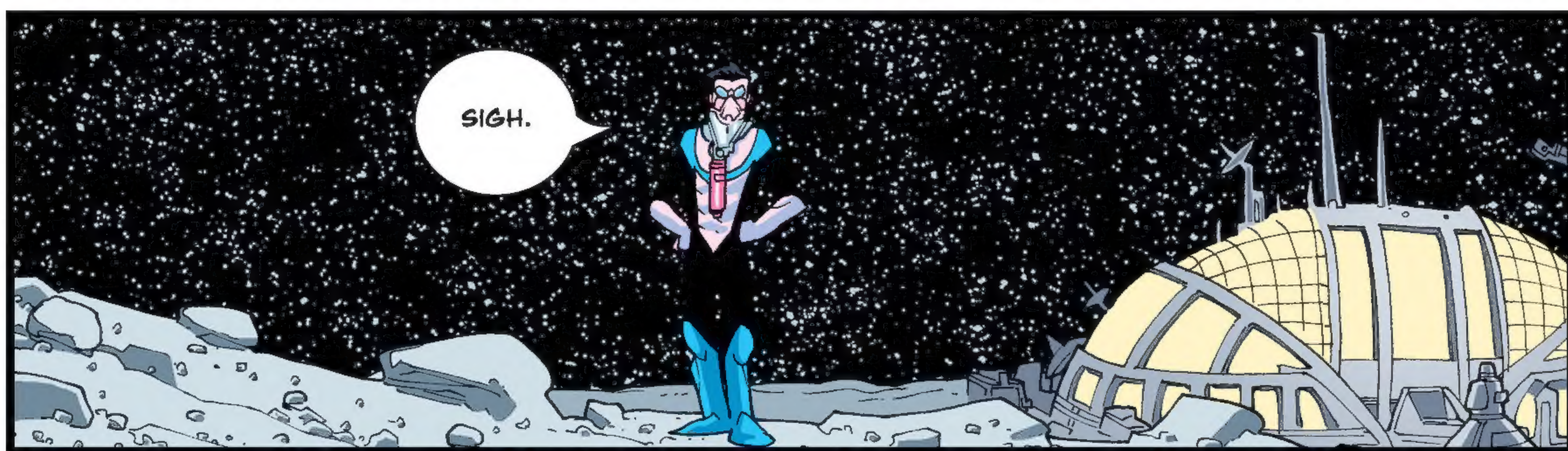
SEEMS
TO ME
LIKE HE'S
EARNED
THAT
TRUST.

WHATEVER.

THE GUY
JUST SEEMS
KIND OF
SHADY TO
ME.

FIRST OFF--WE'VE GOT
A LOT OF WORK TO DO AND
NOT A LOT OF TIME. BETA
TEAM IS COMING IN HERE IN
SIXTEEN HOURS TO WORK
ON THE INNER STRUCTURES.
WE HAVE TO HAVE THIS
DOME SECURE, COMPLETE
AND FUNCTIONING
BEFORE THEN.

SECOND--I
WAS ON THE MARS
MISSION WHEN WE WERE
TAKEN CAPTIVE. INVINCIBLE
SAVED US. IF IT WASN'T
FOR HIM WE WOULD HAVE
BEEN EXECUTED.





...AND IF YOU JUST STAY ON COURSE HE SHOULD BE RIGHT IN FRONT OF--

I SEE HIM--

--WOW.

YEAH-- I'VE GOT THE GUARDIANS OF THE GLOBE ON THE WAY. I CALLED THEM IN, TOO-- FIGURED THIS IS A BIG ENOUGH JOB FOR ALL OF YOU.



YOU FIGURED RIGHT.

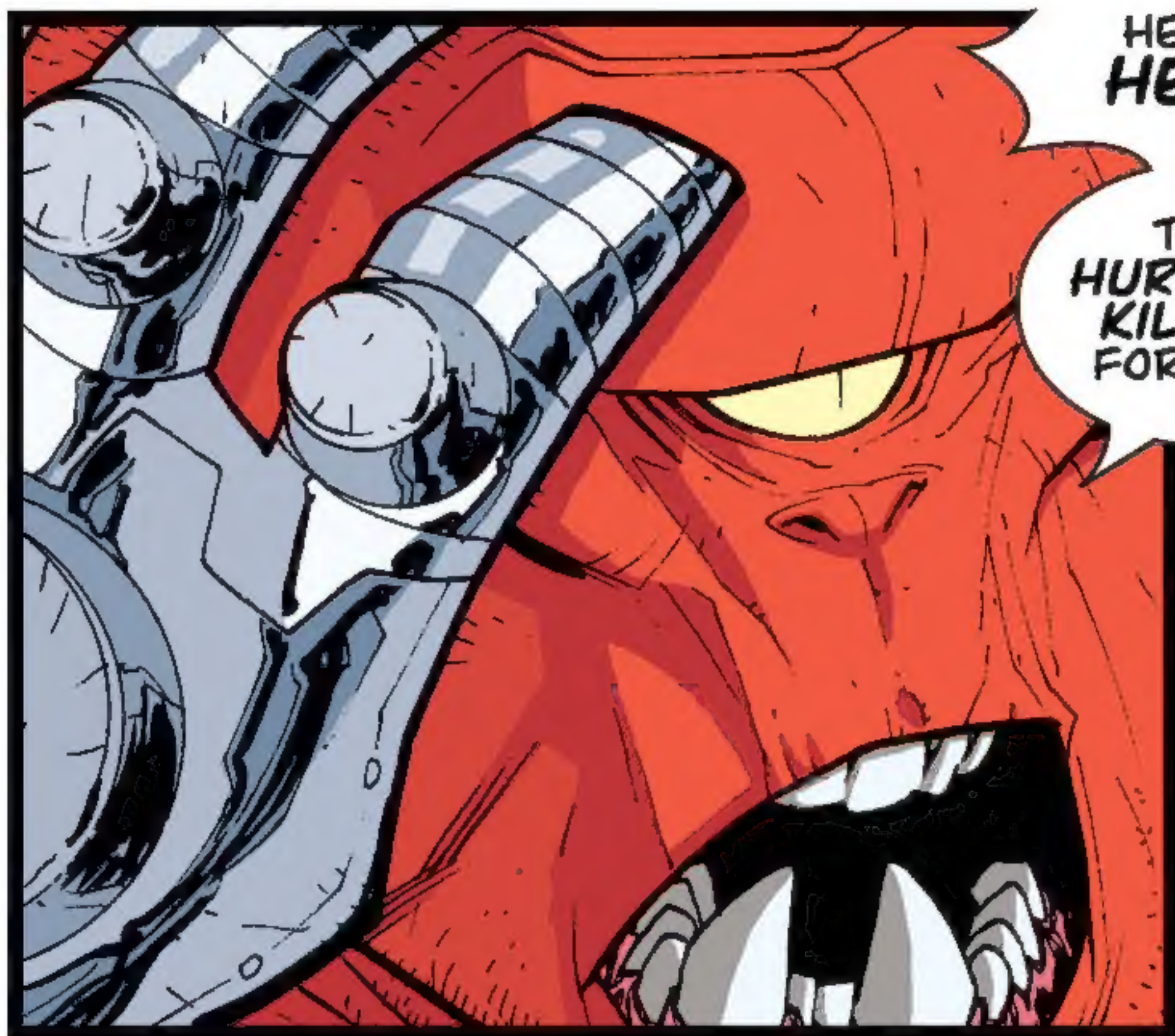
ARE YOU GOING TO BE ABLE TO HOLD YOUR OWN UNTIL THEY ARRIVE?

TANKS?! SOLDIERS?! YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME!! I'M TOO STRONG! I CAN'T BE STOPPED!

OH, YEAH-- I THINK-- I'VE BEEN PRACTICING. I SHOULD BE OKAY.



I THINK I CAN DO THIS.



HEY--
HEY!!

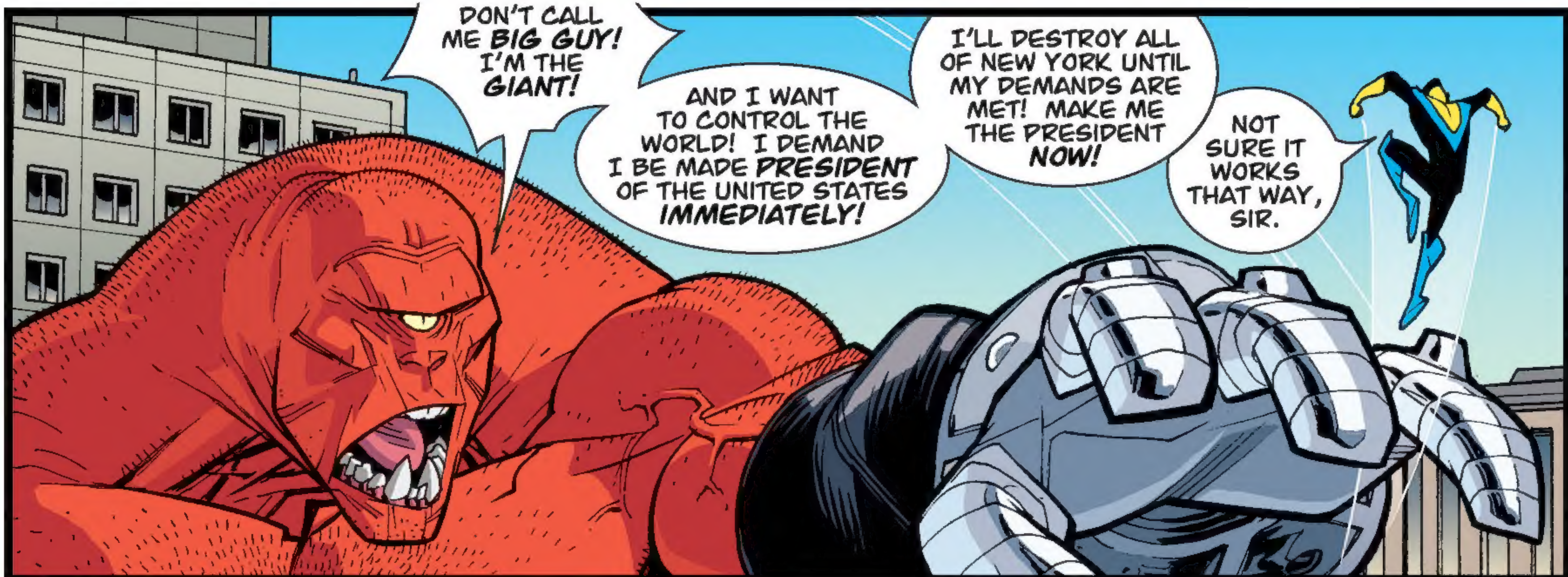
THAT
HURT! I'LL
KILL YOU
FOR THAT!



FORGIVE ME IF
I DON'T STAND
STILL TO PROVIDE
YOU THE
OPPORTUNITY.

ANYWAY--
WHAT GIVES,
BIG GUY?!
WHERE'VE YOU
BEEN HIDING
AND WHAT IS
IT YOU'RE
AFTER?!

YOU'RE
CAUSING ALL
KINDS OF
TROUBLE!



DON'T CALL
ME **BIG GUY!**
I'M THE
GIANT!

AND I WANT
TO CONTROL THE
WORLD! I DEMAND
I BE MADE **PRESIDENT**
OF THE UNITED STATES
IMMEDIATELY!

I'LL DESTROY ALL
OF NEW YORK UNTIL
MY DEMANDS ARE
MET! MAKE ME
THE **PRESIDENT**
NOW!

NOT
SURE IT
WORKS
THAT WAY,
SIR.



I PROMISE THAT
IF YOU DESTROY ALL
OF NEW YORK THE
ONLY THING WE'LL
BE MAKING YOU
IS **DEAD!**

HE'S
NOT KIDDING--
I SUGGEST
A HASTY
SURRENDER.



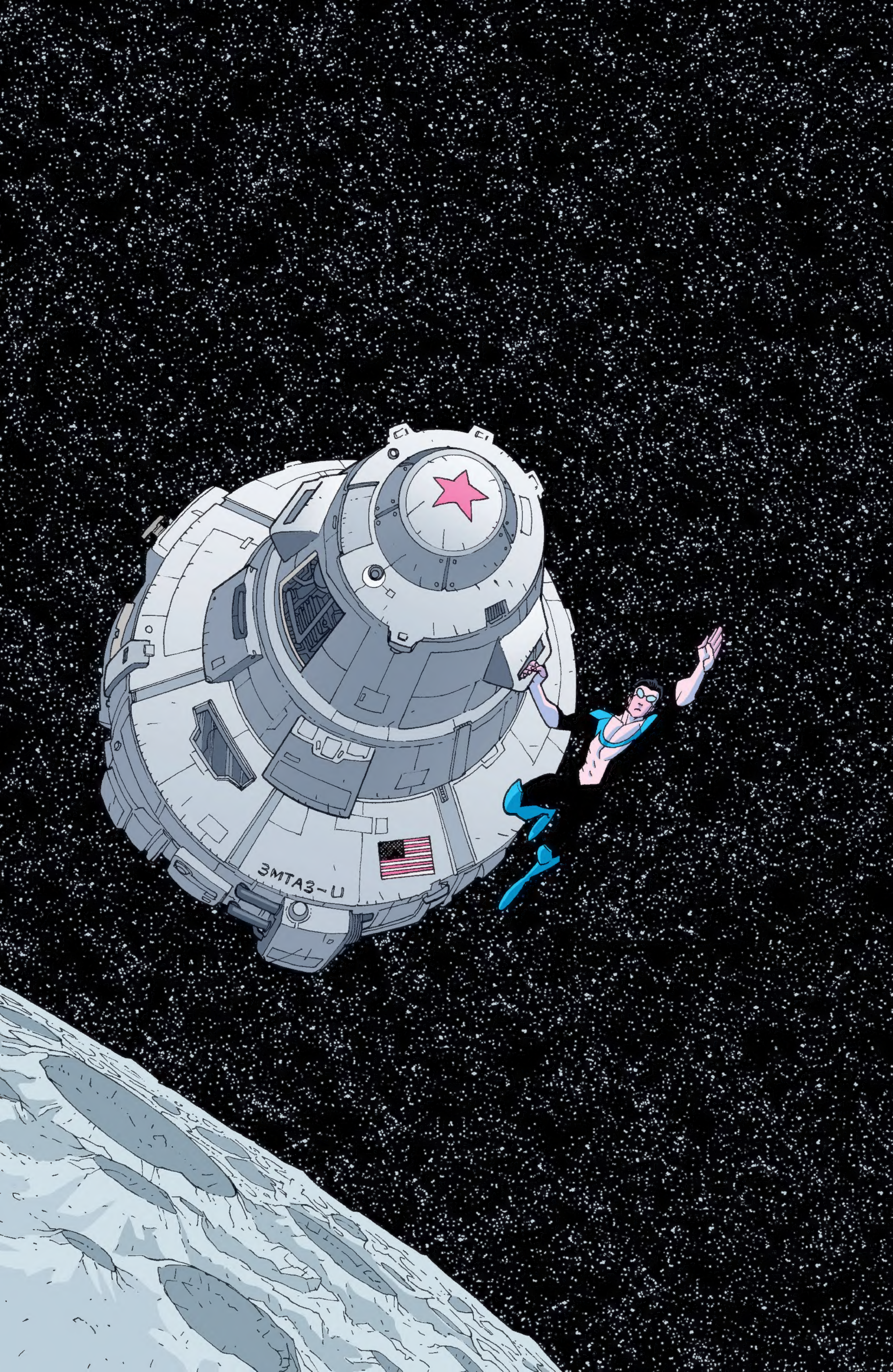
THIS GUY'S
OBVIOUSLY NOT
ALL HERE, FOLKS--
I DON'T THINK
KILLING HIM
IS--

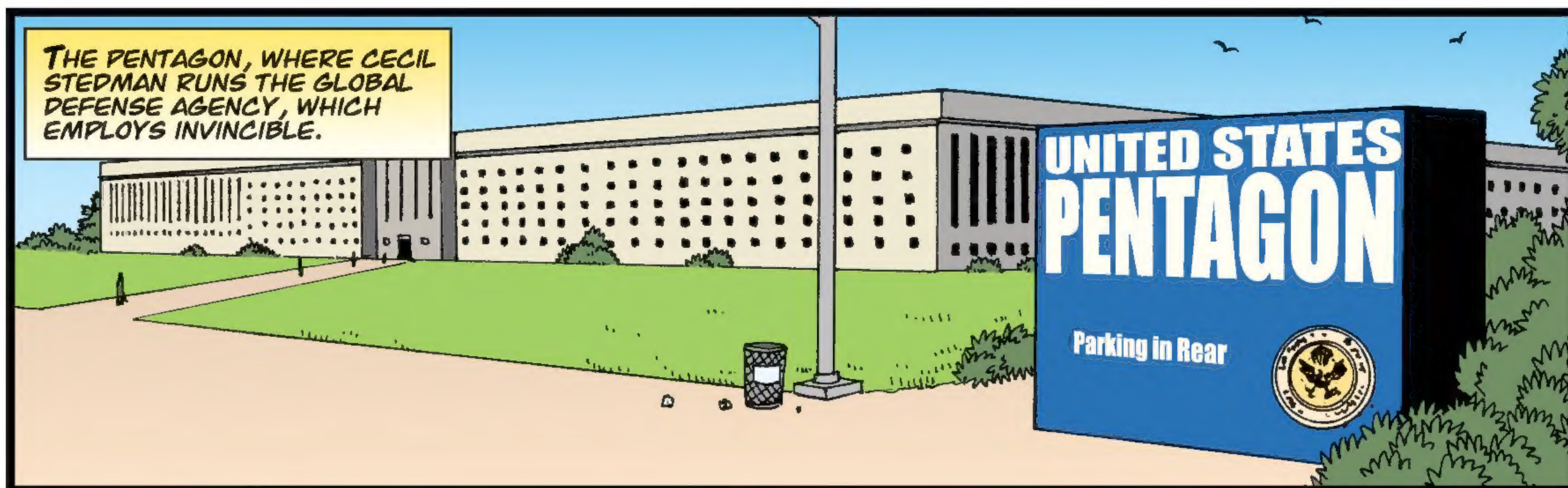
LET THE
GUARDIANS
WRAP THIS
ONE UP, MARK--
I NEED YOU
IN **SPACE--**
QUICK!



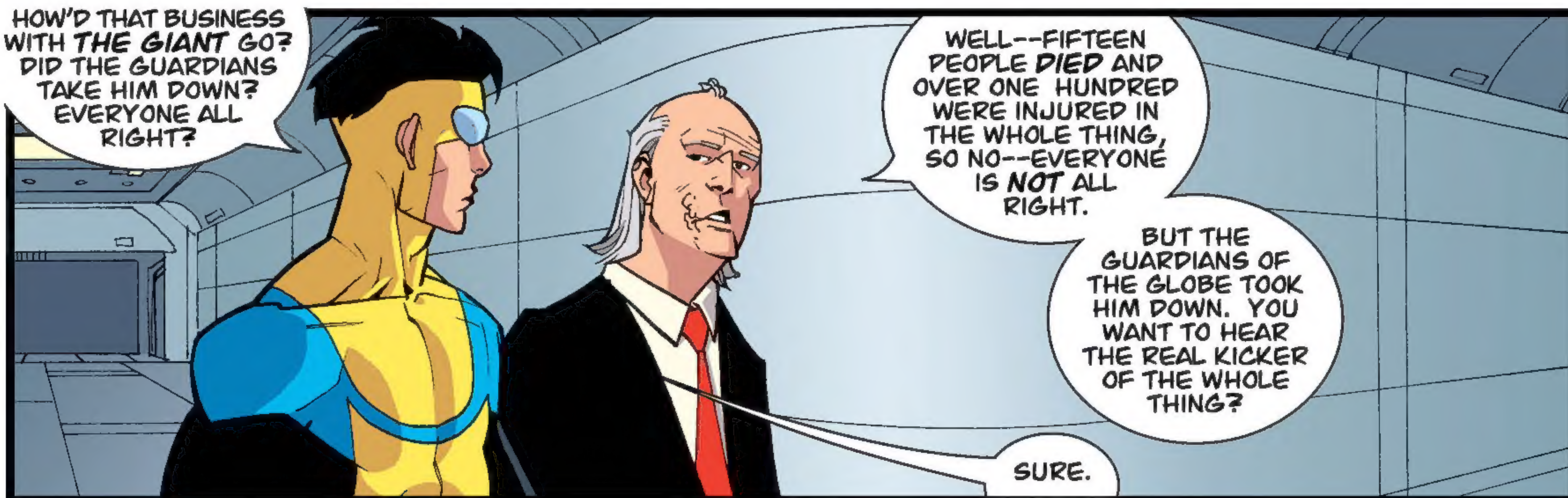
SPACE?
WHAT
FOR?

OH--OH,
YEAH!





THE PENTAGON, WHERE CECIL STEPMAN RUNS THE GLOBAL DEFENSE AGENCY, WHICH EMPLOYS INVINCIBLE.

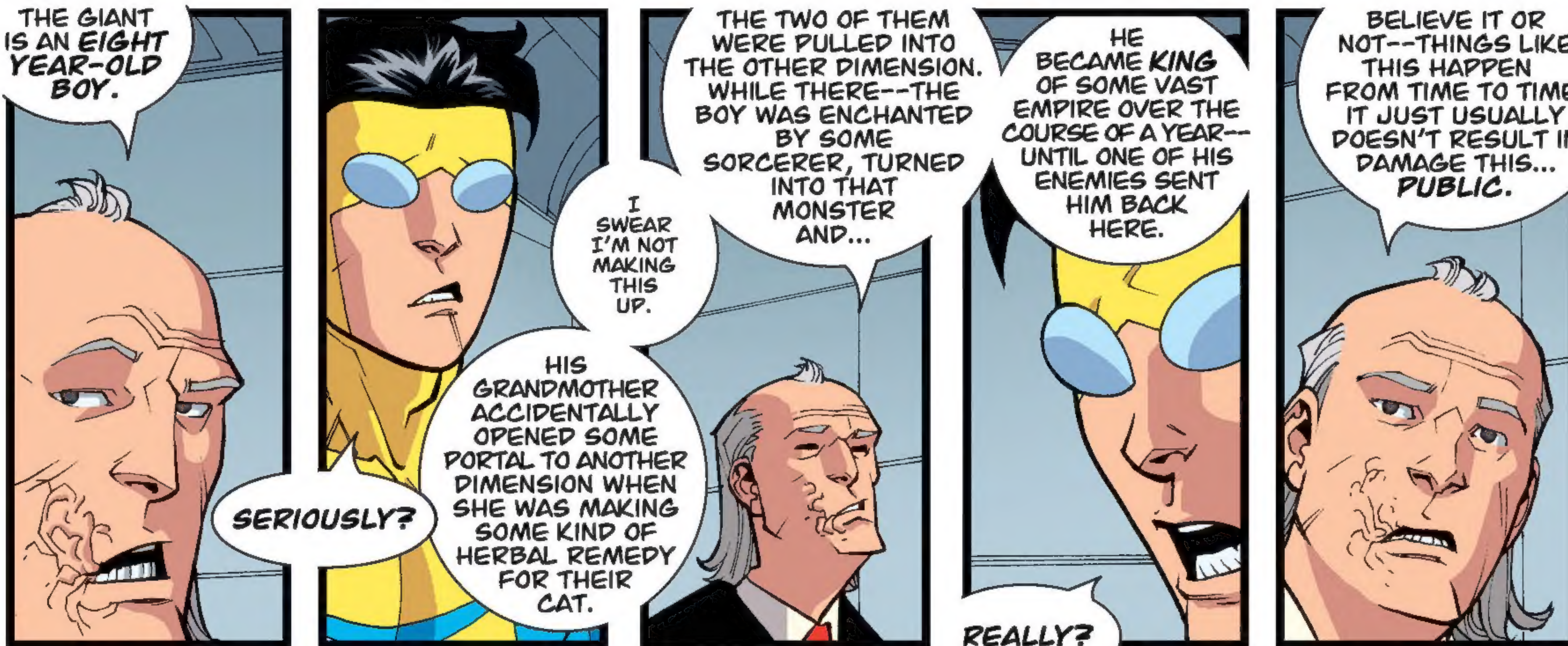


HOW'D THAT BUSINESS WITH **THE GIANT** GO? DID THE GUARDIANS TAKE HIM DOWN? EVERYONE ALL RIGHT?

WELL--FIFTEEN PEOPLE DIED AND OVER ONE HUNDRED WERE INJURED IN THE WHOLE THING, SO NO--EVERYONE IS **NOT** ALL RIGHT.

BUT THE GUARDIANS OF THE GLOBE TOOK HIM DOWN. YOU WANT TO HEAR THE REAL KICKER OF THE WHOLE THING?

SURE.



THE GIANT IS AN **EIGHT YEAR-OLD BOY**.

THE TWO OF THEM WERE PULLED INTO THE OTHER DIMENSION. WHILE THERE--THE BOY WAS ENCHANTED BY SOME SORCERER, TURNED INTO THAT MONSTER AND...

HE BECAME **KING** OF SOME VAST EMPIRE OVER THE COURSE OF A YEAR--UNTIL ONE OF HIS ENEMIES SENT HIM BACK HERE.

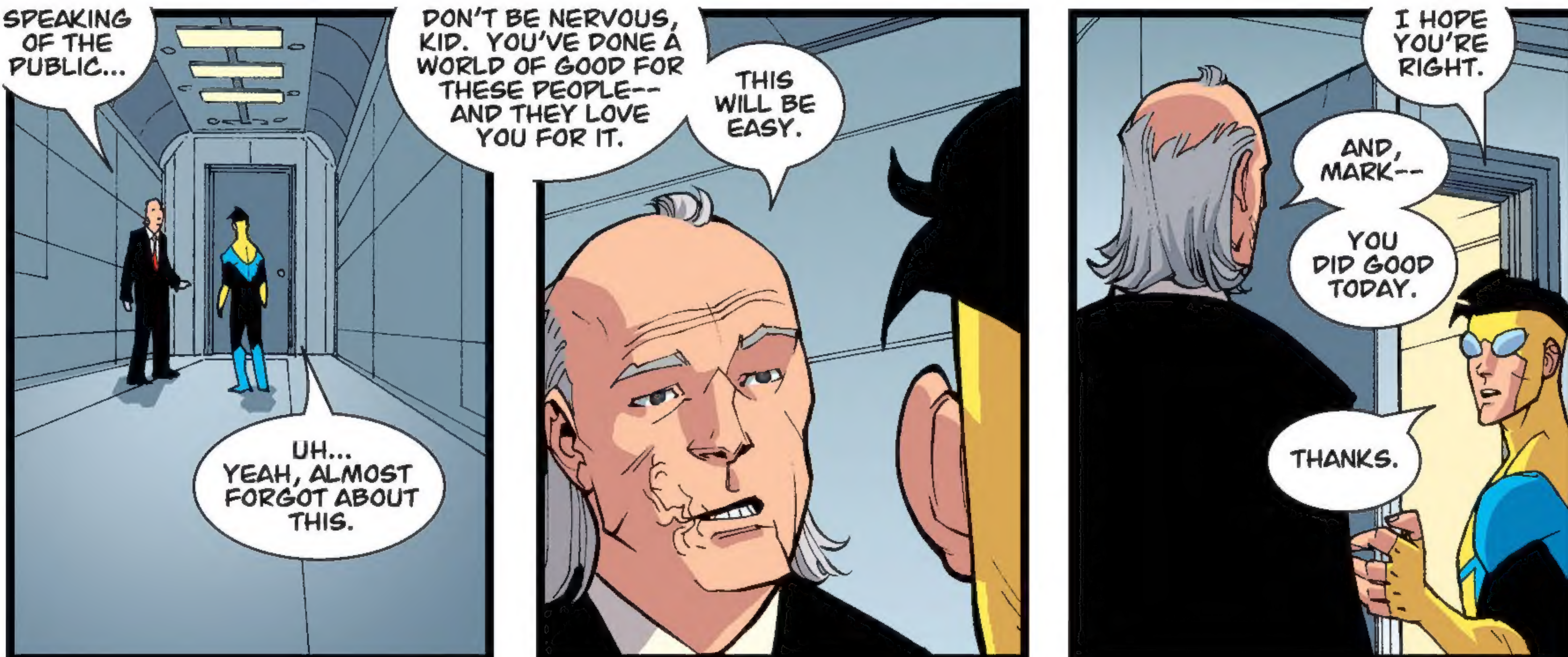
BELIEVE IT OR NOT--THINGS LIKE THIS HAPPEN FROM TIME TO TIME. IT JUST USUALLY DOESN'T RESULT IN DAMAGE THIS... **PUBLIC**.

SERIOUSLY?

I SWEAR I'M NOT MAKING THIS UP.

HIS GRANDMOTHER ACCIDENTALLY OPENED SOME PORTAL TO ANOTHER DIMENSION WHEN SHE WAS MAKING SOME KIND OF HERBAL REMEDY FOR THEIR CAT.

REALLY?



SPEAKING OF THE PUBLIC...

DON'T BE NERVOUS, KID. YOU'VE DONE A WORLD OF GOOD FOR THESE PEOPLE--AND THEY LOVE YOU FOR IT.

THIS WILL BE EASY.

UH... YEAH, ALMOST FORGOT ABOUT THIS.

I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT.

AND, MARK--

YOU DID GOOD TODAY.

THANKS.



GATHERED MEMBERS OF THE PRESS, I APPRECIATE YOUR PATIENCE. I NOW TURN THE FLOOR OVER TO THE MAN OF THE HOUR HIMSELF-- INVINCIBLE.



YOU'VE BEEN VERY DILIGENT IN YOUR WORK OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS, THE INVASION FROM MARS, SAVING THESE ASTRONAUTS TODAY...

IS THERE ANY REASON FOR YOUR INCREASED PUBLIC PROFILE?



NOT REALLY, NO. I'VE ALWAYS BEEN HELPING OUT--DOING MY PART. I GUESS WHAT I'VE BEEN DOING LATELY IS A BIT MORE NEWS-WORTHY?

I DON'T REALLY KNOW.



YOUR FATHER, OMNI-MAN, TRIED TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD AND ENSLAVE US ALL-- YOU OPPOSED HIM.

DO YOU THINK YOU DO AS A WAY OF ATONING FOR THE SINS OF YOUR FATHER?



UH...

MY FATHER...



I'M WELL AWARE OF THE HORRIFIC ACTIONS OF MY FATHER. I KNOW WHAT HIS PLANS FOR THIS PLANET WERE-- AND I STOPPED HIM FROM CARRYING THEM OUT.

THE EVENTS OF THAT DAY ARE SOMETHING THAT ARE ALWAYS ON MY MIND. IT'S NOT SOMETHING I'LL EVER FORGET AND IT DOES GUIDE MY ACTIONS TO A CERTAIN EXTENT.

BUT I DO WHAT I DO--NOT AS AN APOLOGY TO THE HUMAN RACE-- OR TO TRY AND ERASE THE ACTIONS OF MY FATHER. I HELP PEOPLE BECAUSE I WANT TO-- BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT IT IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

I'M ONLY TRYING TO DO WHAT'S RIGHT.



UPSTATE UNIVERSITY.
THE DORM ROOM OF
MARK GRAYSON AND
WILLIAM CLOCKWELL.



SIGH



I KNEW IT--READING THOSE STUPID BOOKS AGAIN. IF YOU'RE HERE AT ALL, YOU'RE READING THOSE STUPID BOOKS. I SWEAR YOU MUST HAVE READ THOSE SIX TIMES EACH BY NOW.

IT'S RIDICULOUS.

IT'S IMPORTANT, WILLIAM.



THESE BOOKS WERE WRITTEN BY MY FATHER WHEN HE FIRST CAME TO EARTH. THESE "STUPID" BOOKS TELL STORIES ABOUT THE VILTRUMITES--I KNOW THEY REVEAL WAYS TO DEFEAT THEM.



WHOA--CALM DOWN, MAN.

I WAS JUST MESSING WITH YOU.

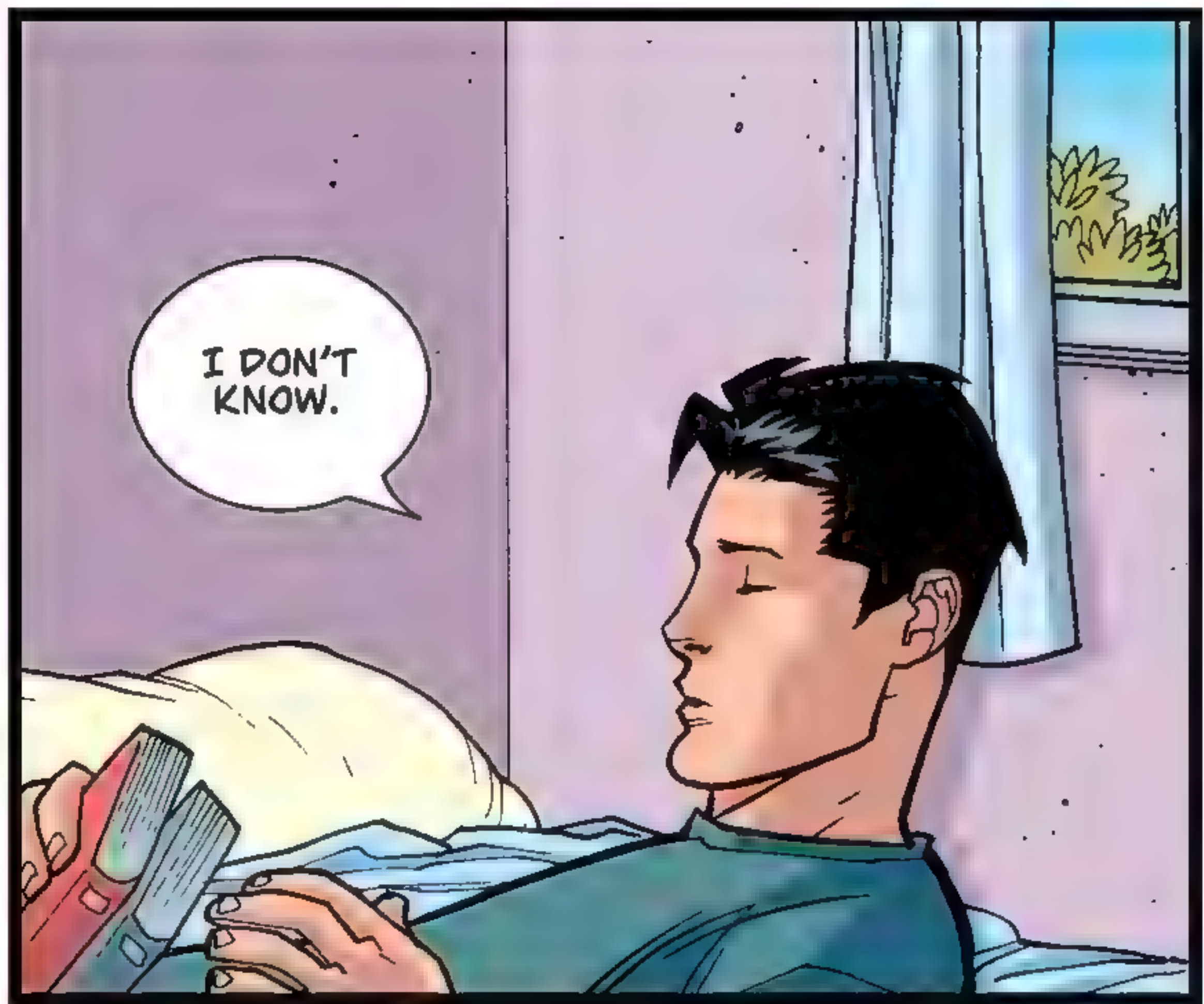
CRAP.



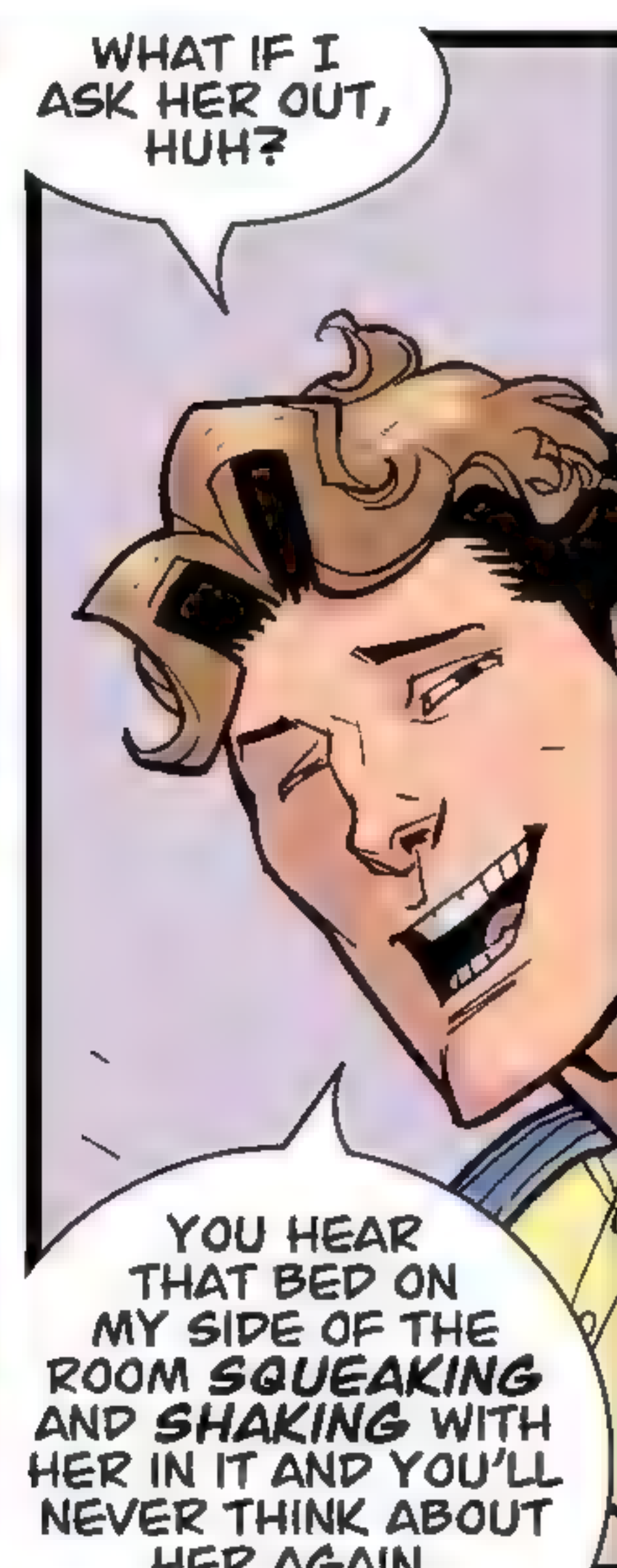
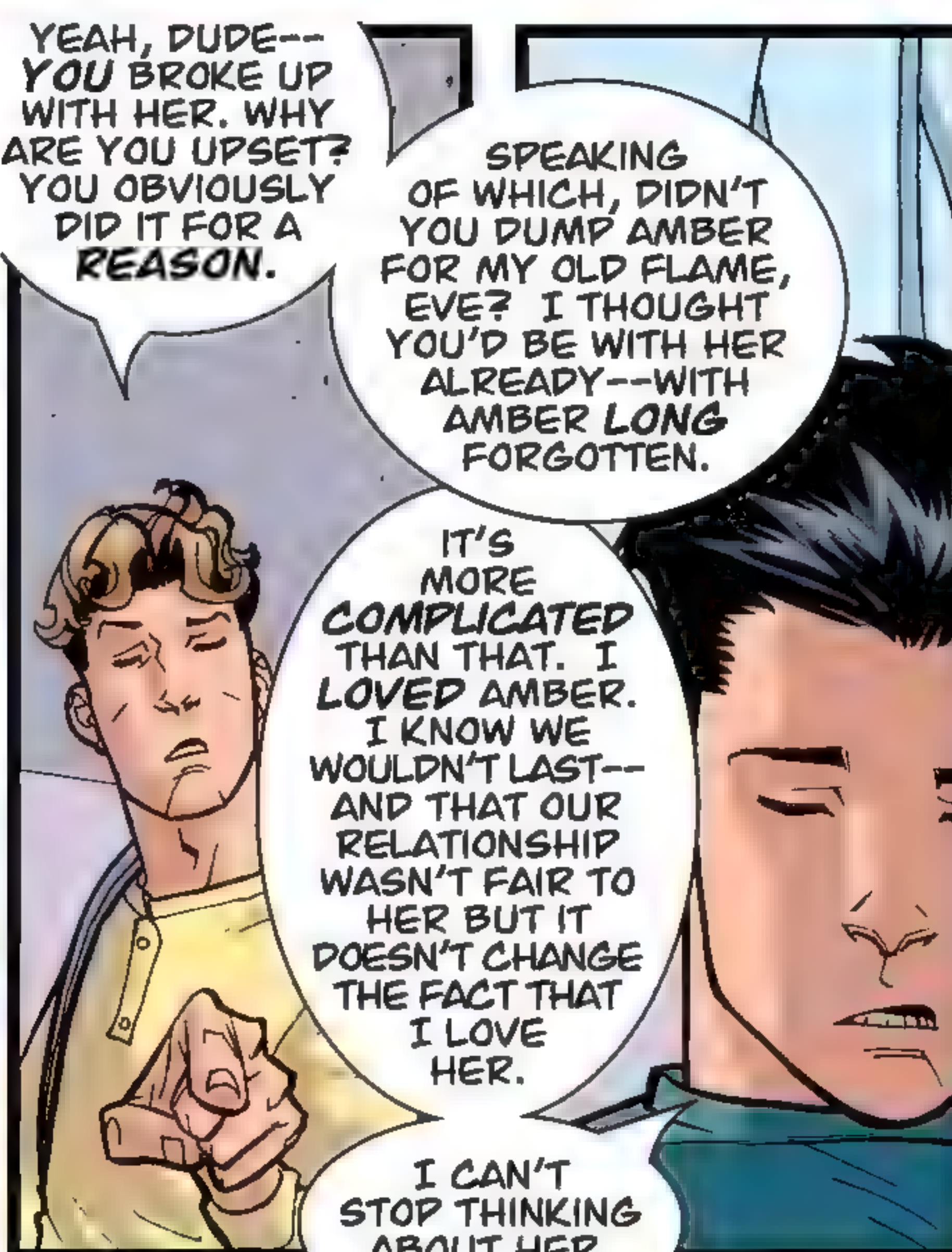
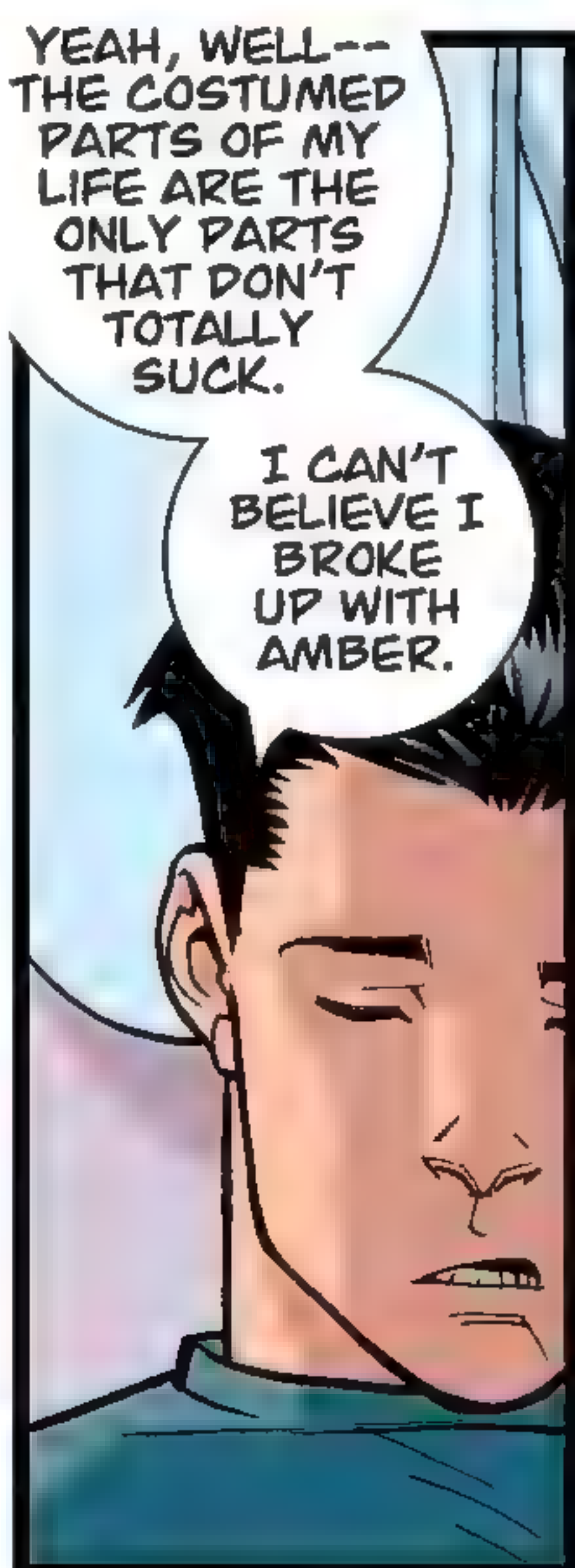
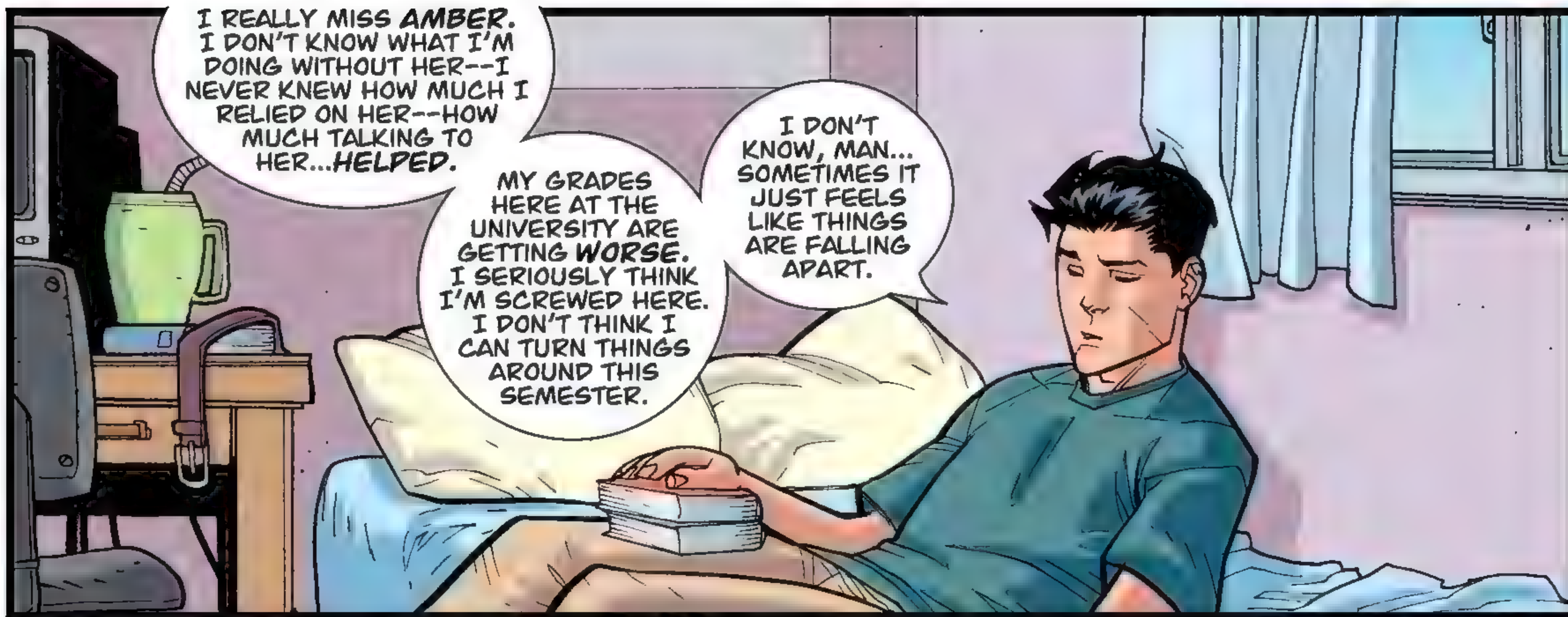
MARK?

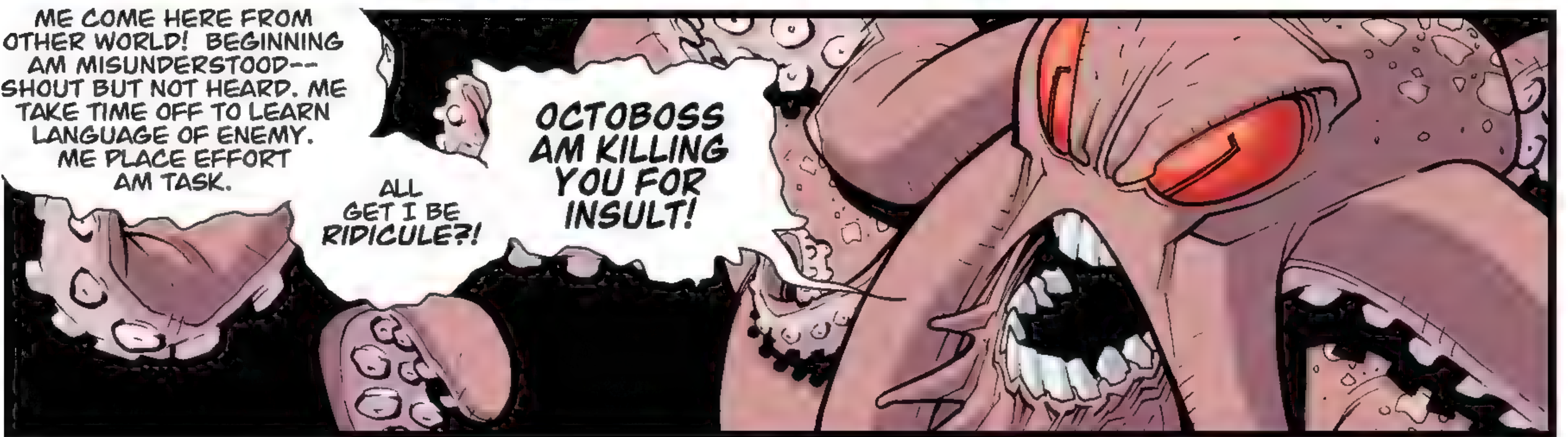


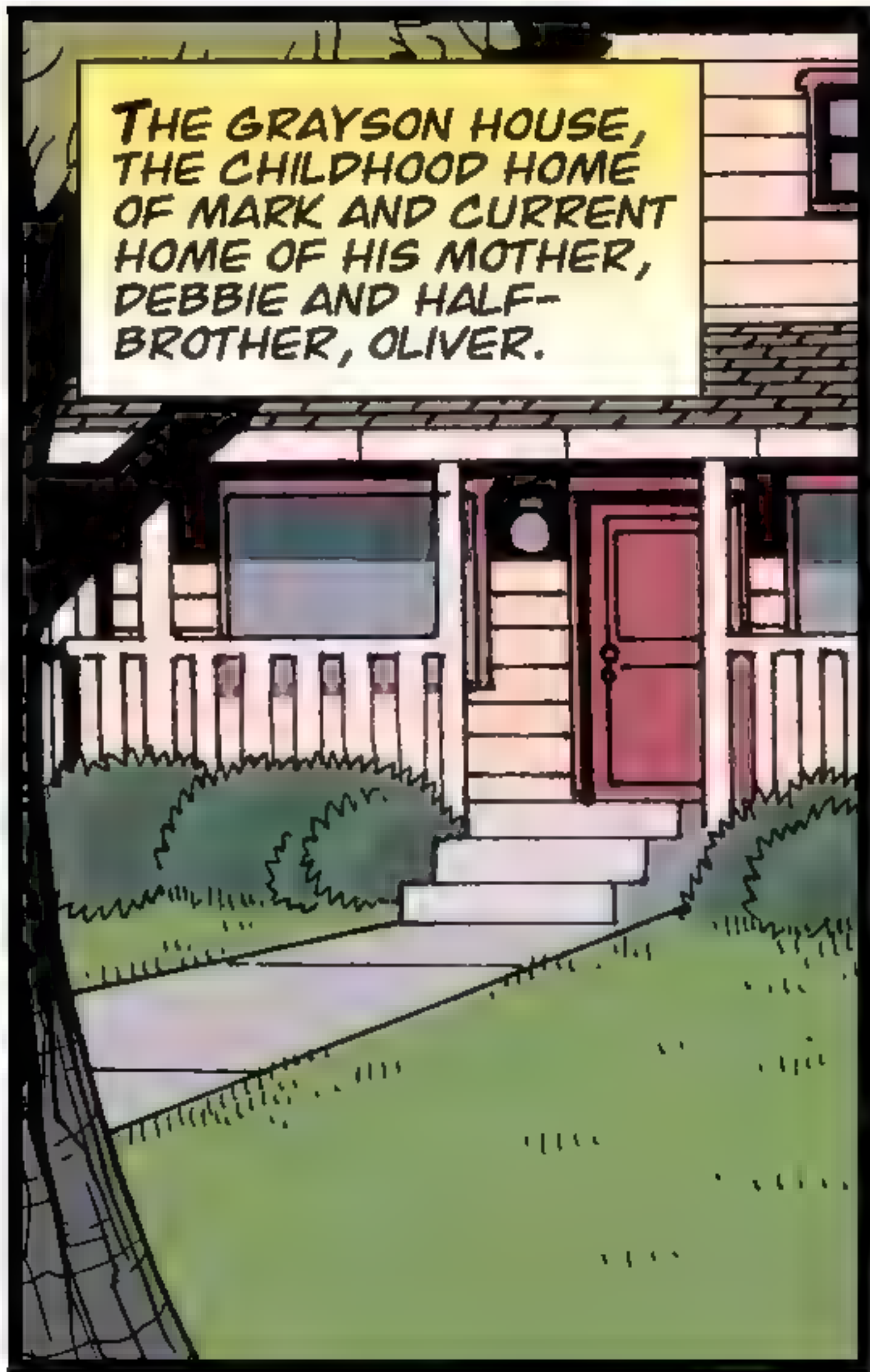
YOU OKAY?



I DON'T KNOW.







THE GRAYSON HOUSE, THE CHILDHOOD HOME OF MARK AND CURRENT HOME OF HIS MOTHER, DEBBIE AND HALF-BROTHER, OLIVER.



"I'M INVINCIBLE!"

UGH.

I'VE GOT TO STOP USING THAT LINE RIGHT BEFORE I GET THE SNOT BEATEN OUT OF ME...



OH, LOOK WHO'S HERE.

YEAH, I CAME BY TO GET SOME CLOTHES BEFORE I HEAD BACK TO SCHOOL. I JUST RUINED ANOTHER COSTUME. IF I FLEW BACK IN THAT ONE I'D ARRIVE NAKED.

HOW'S THE LITTLE GUY?



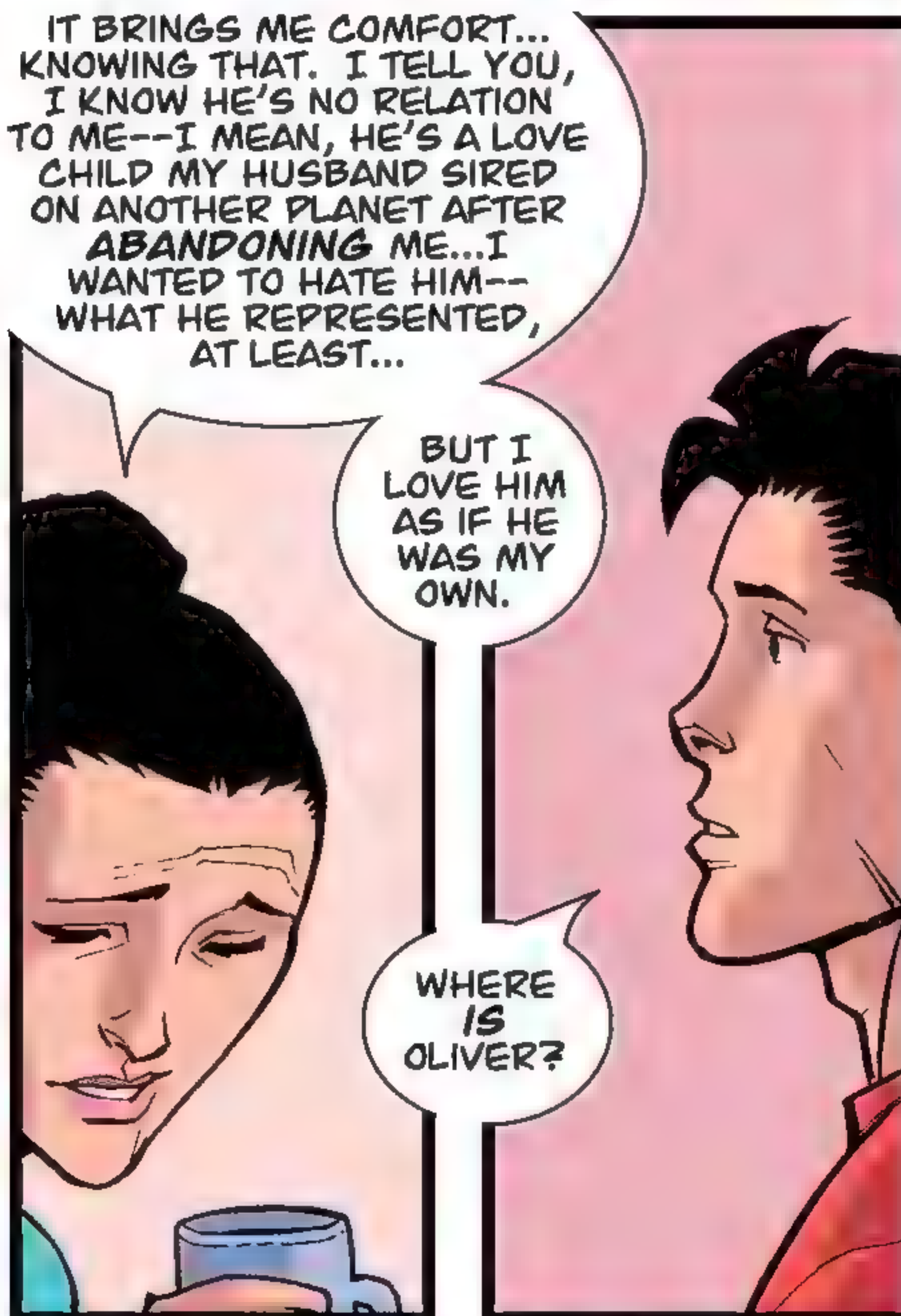
NOT AS LITTLE AS HE WAS LAST TIME YOU SAW HIM BUT THAT'S ALWAYS THE CASE.

I SWEAR-- YOU GREW UP WAY TOO FAST, BUT THIS ONE...



WELL, HIS MOTHER'S ALIEN RACE ONLY LIVED FOR A MATTER OF MONTHS.

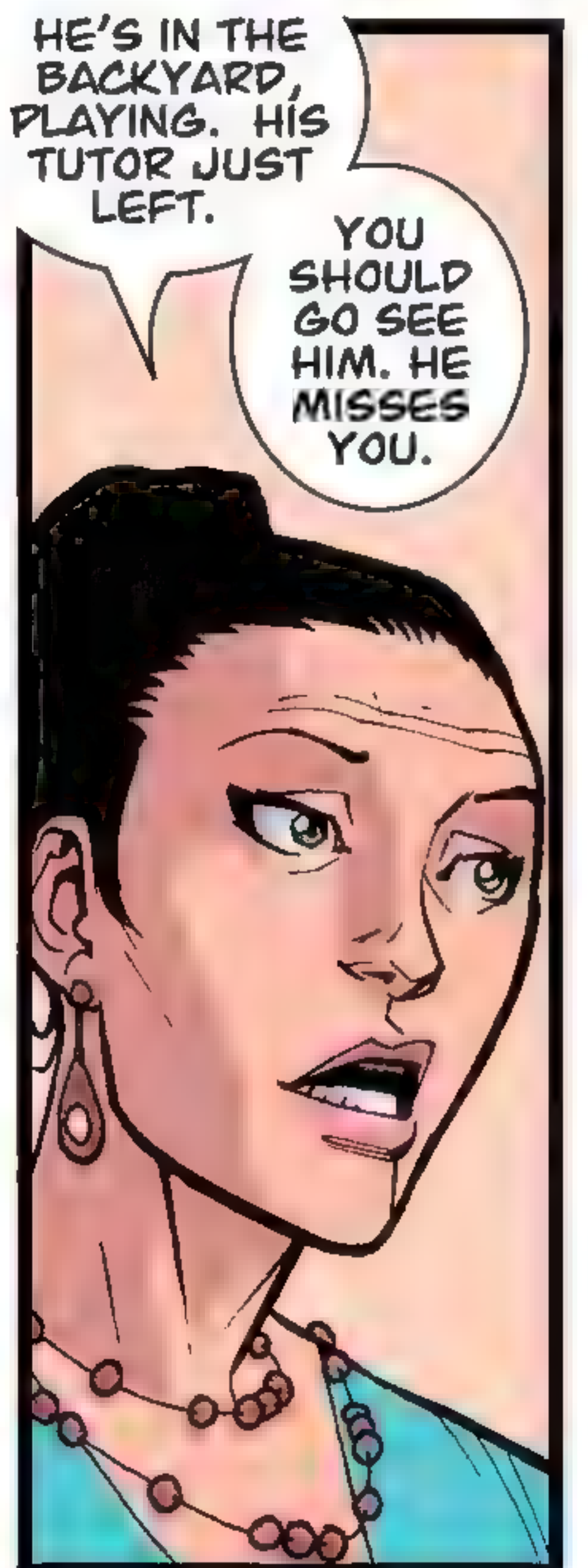
BE THANKFUL THAT DAD'S VILTRUMITE DNA WILL SLOW THAT DOWN AS HE GETS OLDER.



IT BRINGS ME COMFORT... KNOWING THAT. I TELL YOU, I KNOW HE'S NO RELATION TO ME--I MEAN, HE'S A LOVE CHILD MY HUSBAND Sired ON ANOTHER PLANET AFTER ABANDONING ME...I WANTED TO HATE HIM-- WHAT HE REPRESENTED, AT LEAST...

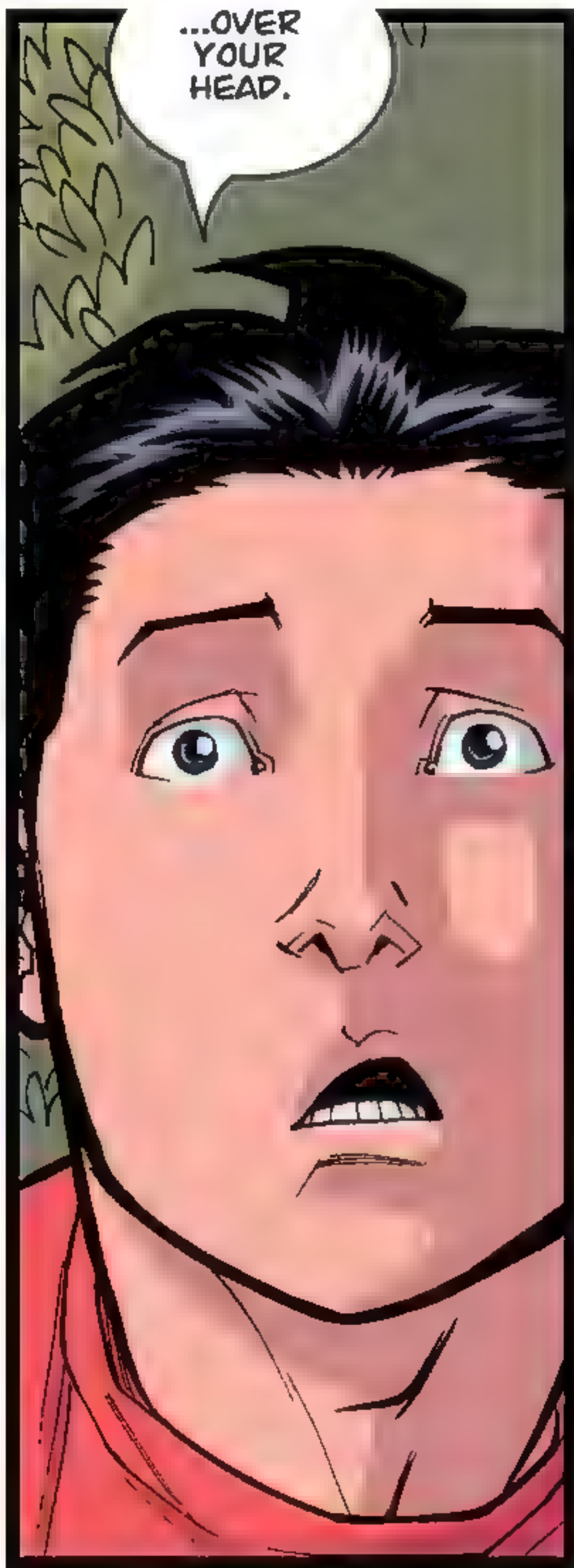
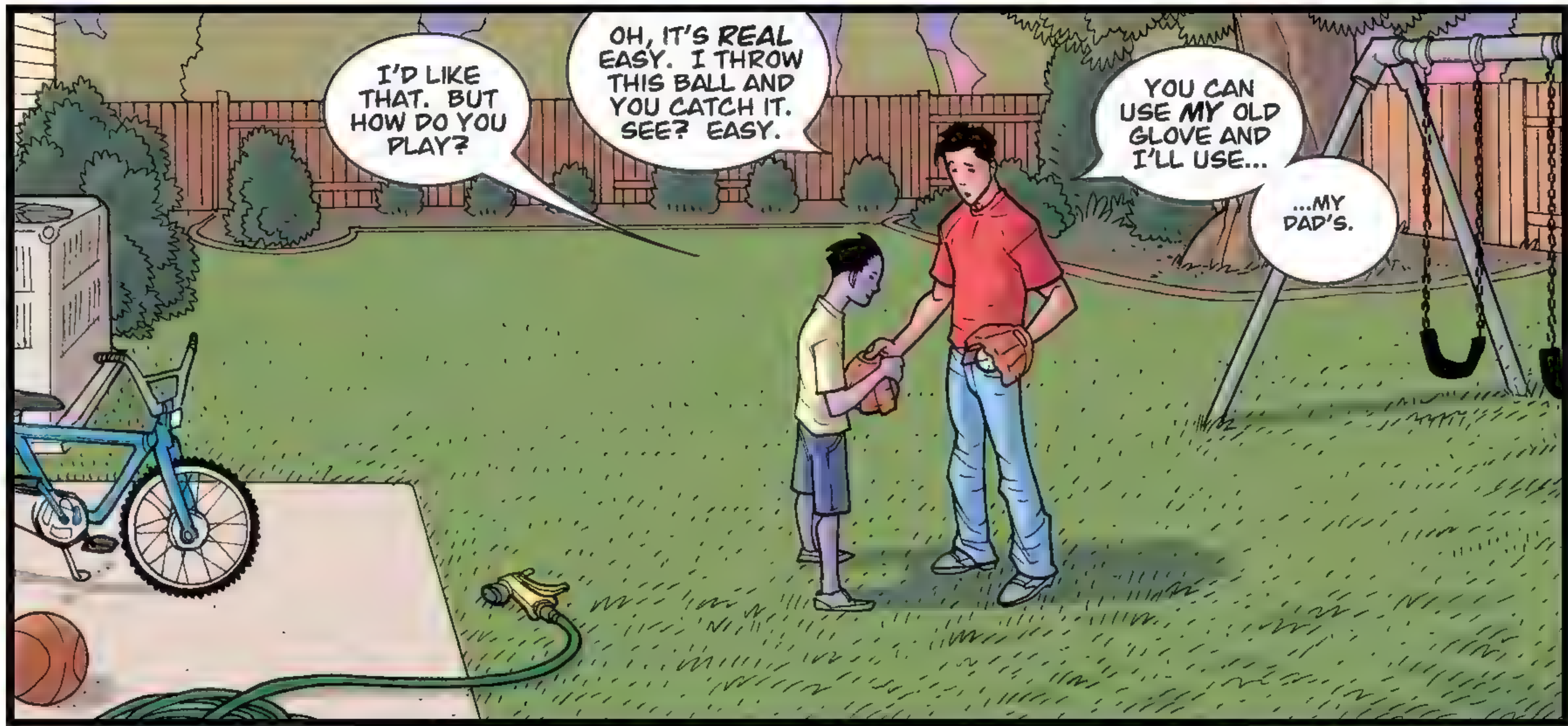
BUT I LOVE HIM AS IF HE WAS MY OWN.

WHERE IS OLIVER?



HE'S IN THE BACKYARD, PLAYING. HIS TUTOR JUST LEFT.

YOU SHOULD GO SEE HIM. HE MISSES YOU.





UM...

I HAVEN'T
TOLD MOM YET.
I WANTED TO
SURPRISE
YOU.

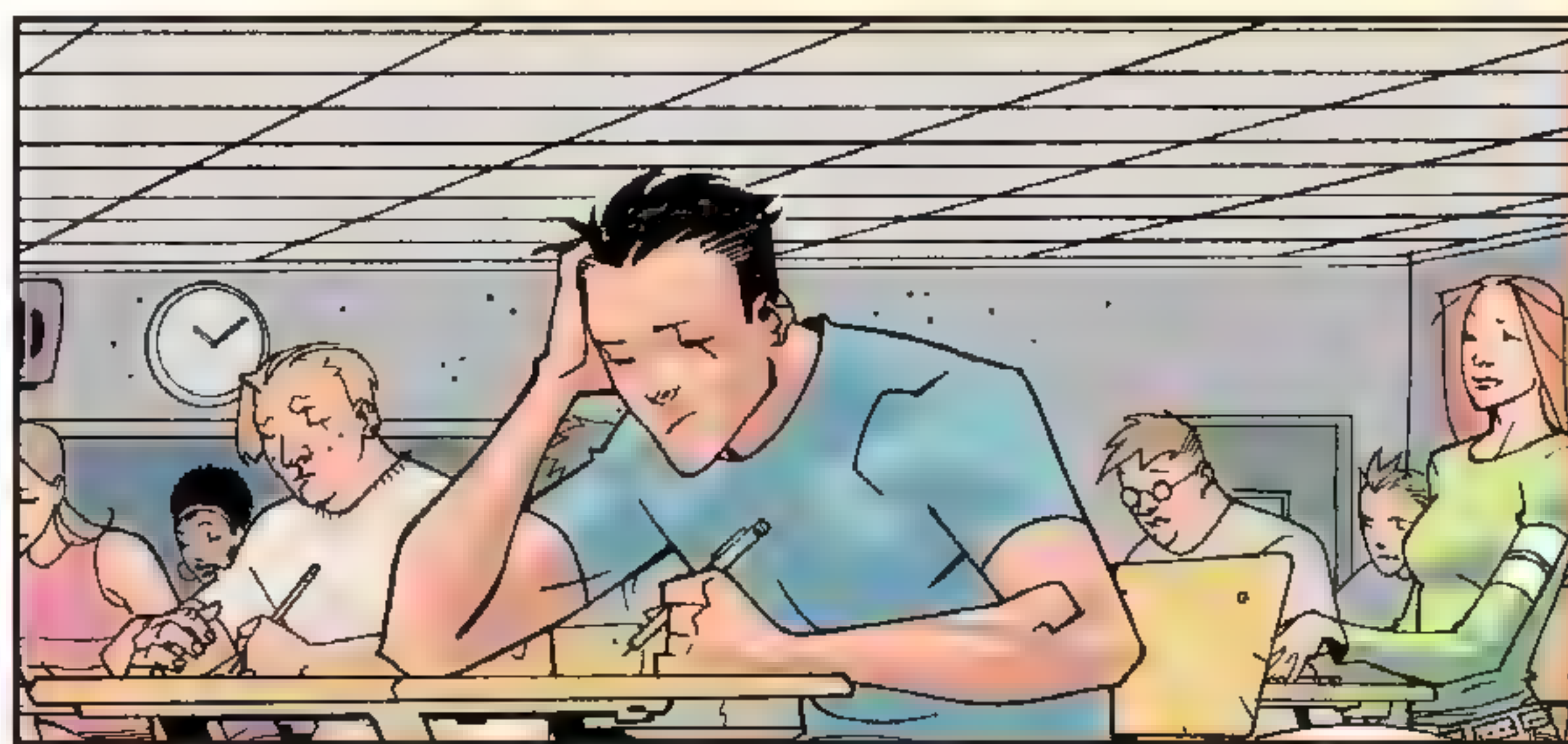
MISSION
ACCOMPLISHED.

WOW.

INVINCIBLE – The Story So Far...

Written by David Campbell

Mark Grayson was a normal high school student with normal high school student problems: SATs. Getting into college. Girls. Crappy part-time job. The usual stuff.



But Mark was a little different than other kids his age. His father Nolan was actually Omni-Man, hands down the most powerful superhero on the planet. An alien from the planet Viltrum, Omni-Man (aka author Nolan Grayson) married an Earth woman named Debbie Grayson, who gave birth to Mark. They lived as a happy, normal suburban family for years — until Mark started getting Viltrumite superpowers.

It started during an afternoon shift at Mark's crappy Burger Mart job. While taking out the trash, Mark tossed a garbage bag into the air... it would later land somewhere in England.



Mark quickly discovered his other powers — flight, super-speed, invulnerability, the works. He began sneaking out at night, testing his powers by fighting crime. Nolan approved of Mark's super heroics and introduced his son to Art Rosenbaum, designer of costumes and superhero tailor extraordinaire.

Soon, Mark had a cool blue and yellow costume and an equally cool code name: **Invincible**.

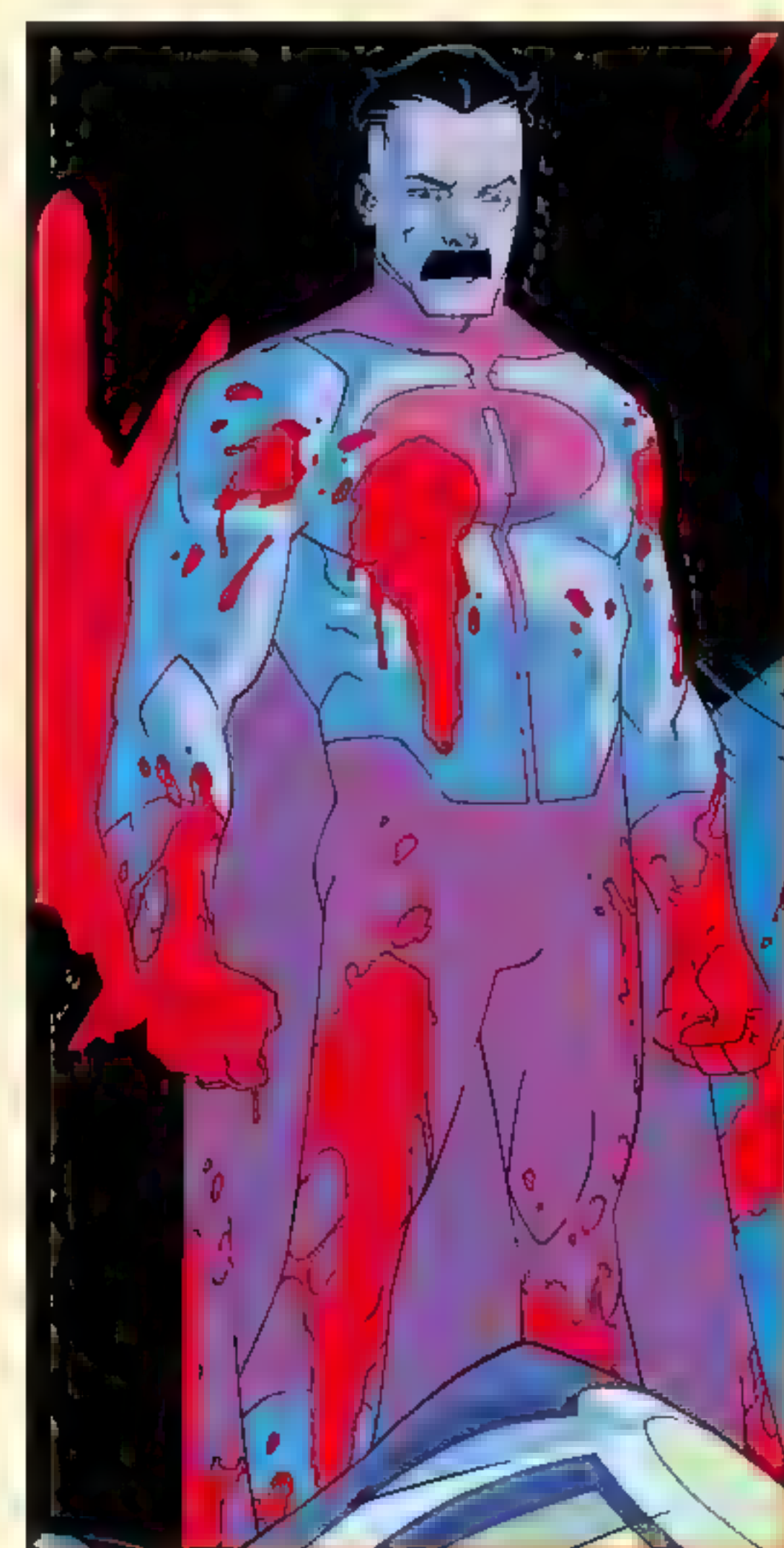
Things went pretty well at first. Mark stopped some bank robbers, foiled the plans of his maniacal physics teacher, battled an alien in space, and even helped his dad stop an inter-dimensional invasion. He joined forces with the Teen Team, a group of young heroes led by the enigmatic Robot that included Atom Eve, a cute girl who happened to go to his school. This hero stuff was pretty fun.

But soon life started to get complicated. The homework didn't go away just because he was Invincible, and he wasn't getting a lot of sleep between crime fighting and classes. Plus, keeping a secret identity was harder than it looked — Mark's best friend William easily figured out he was Invincible during a campus visit to Upstate University.

And then somebody killed the Guardians of the Globe, seven of the most powerful heroes on Earth, all in one fell swoop. Nolan seemed deeply affected by the grisly murder of the group; as Omni-Man he had teamed up with the Guardians to defend the planet on many occasions and considered them friends, with the possible exception of The Immortal. Mark's dad became distant and preoccupied.

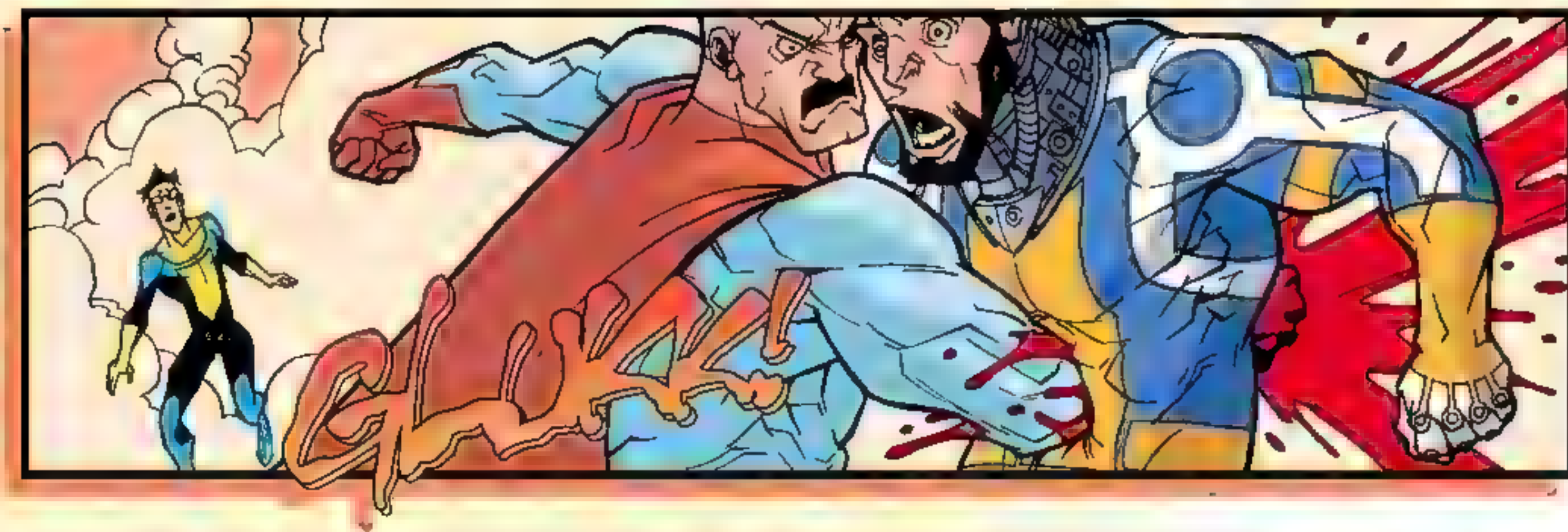
But Mark was too busy to notice. He was proving his superhero mettle by defeating villains like Elephant, The Lizard League, and Doc Seismic. Things were starting to go well for Mark — he even hooked up with a cute girl named Amber from his school.

Then everything went to hell.



When the Immortal was resurrected for nefarious purposes by the criminal clones the Mauler Twins, the reborn hero went berserk and tracked down his killer, Omni-Man, who was fighting a giant monster at the time. The Immortal attacked Omni-Man in a blind fury.

Mark arrived in time to see Omni-Man — his own father — confess to the murder of the Guardians and then tear The Immortal in half.



Covered in The Immortal's blood, Nolan calmly explained that he had killed the Guardians of the Globe as part of a plan to eliminate Earth's defenses against a Viltrumite invasion. As Mark listened, aghast, Nolan said that the stories he had told him about a benevolent Viltrumite

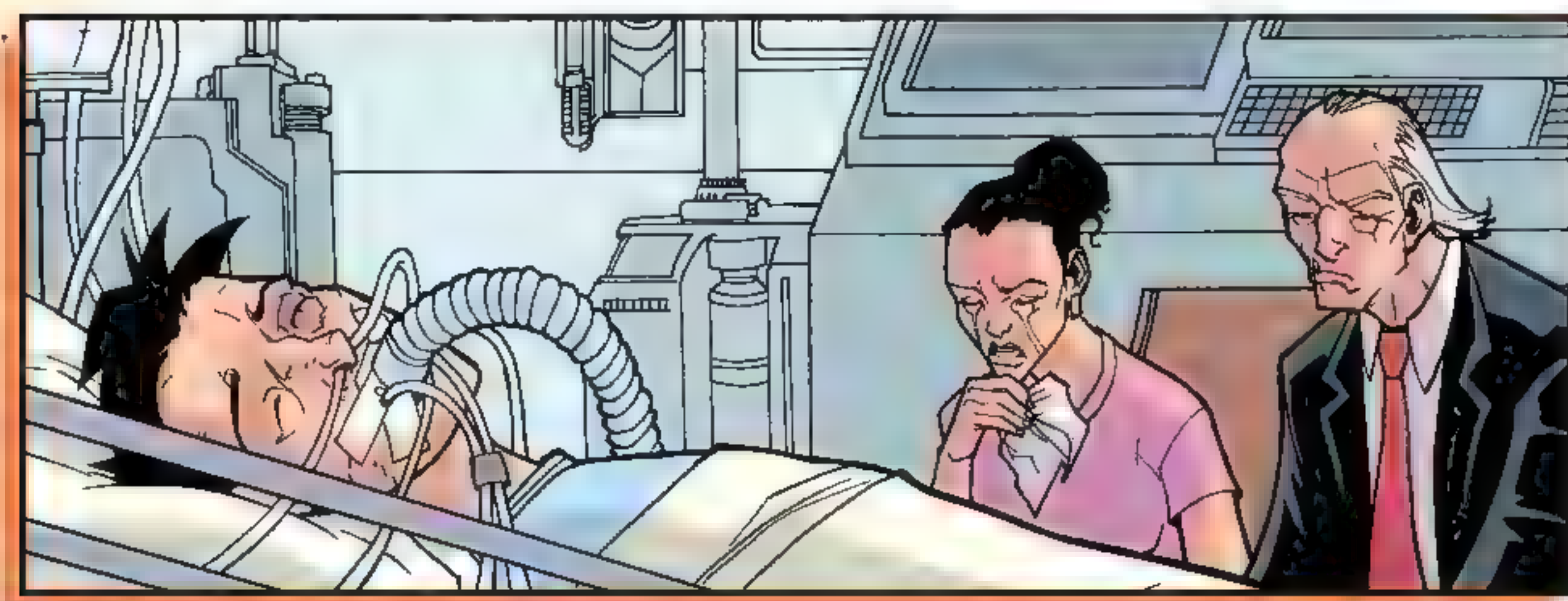
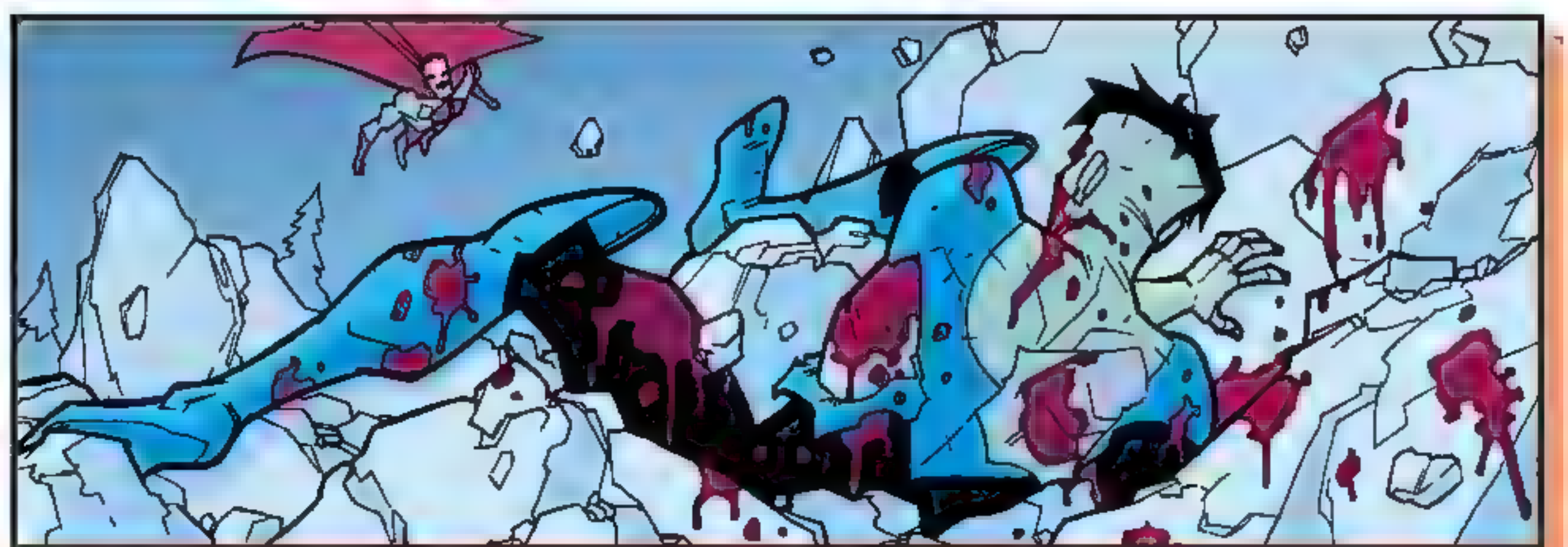
federation were all lies. In reality, this federation was an empire of subjugated civilizations that served the master species, the super-powerful Viltrumites. He was here as an advanced scout of sorts to claim this planet of inferior beings and prepare its inhabitants for assimilation into the Viltrumite Empire.

Mark couldn't believe it. His dad told him that his mother, Debbie was nothing more than a pet to him. Viltrumites had such extremely long life spans that his time with Debbie was fleeting and inconsequential. They couldn't live among these frail, inferior beings. They were meant to rule them. Now that Mark had come of age and manifested his Viltrumite powers, it was time for him to act like a Viltrumite as well. Nolan asked Mark to join him in conquering Earth. Together they would rule for nearly five hundred years before turning the planet over to Viltrum.

Outraged, Mark refused to join Nolan. He also couldn't step aside... the fight was on.

Mark bravely attacked his father, but he was outmatched. Nolan pounded Mark with super strong punches without regard to the death or damage he caused. Hundreds of frail humans died as the destructive battle brought down office buildings, collapsed a subway system, and buried an alpine village under an avalanche.

Finally Mark lay beaten and bloody on the side of a mountain, utterly defeated. Nolan brought back his fist for a fatal blow... and paused. He couldn't do it. Turning from his shattered son, he flew up, up out of the atmosphere into space and kept going. Omni-Man had left the planet.



Cecil Stedman, the powerful and hideously scarred director of the Global Defense Agency, had the wounded Mark treated in a GDA paramedicine facility below the Pentagon. He had listened to the entire encounter via an earpiece communicator he used to talk to Omni-Man, who he revealed to be his top operative.

At Stedman's direction, Omni-Man would respond to threats around the world that required superhuman intervention. Now that their primary superhuman operative was AWOL, the GDA needed a replacement. Stedman saw real potential in the young hero, and asked Mark if he'd like to work for him in return for a generous allowance for his family and a full scholarship. Mark agreed.

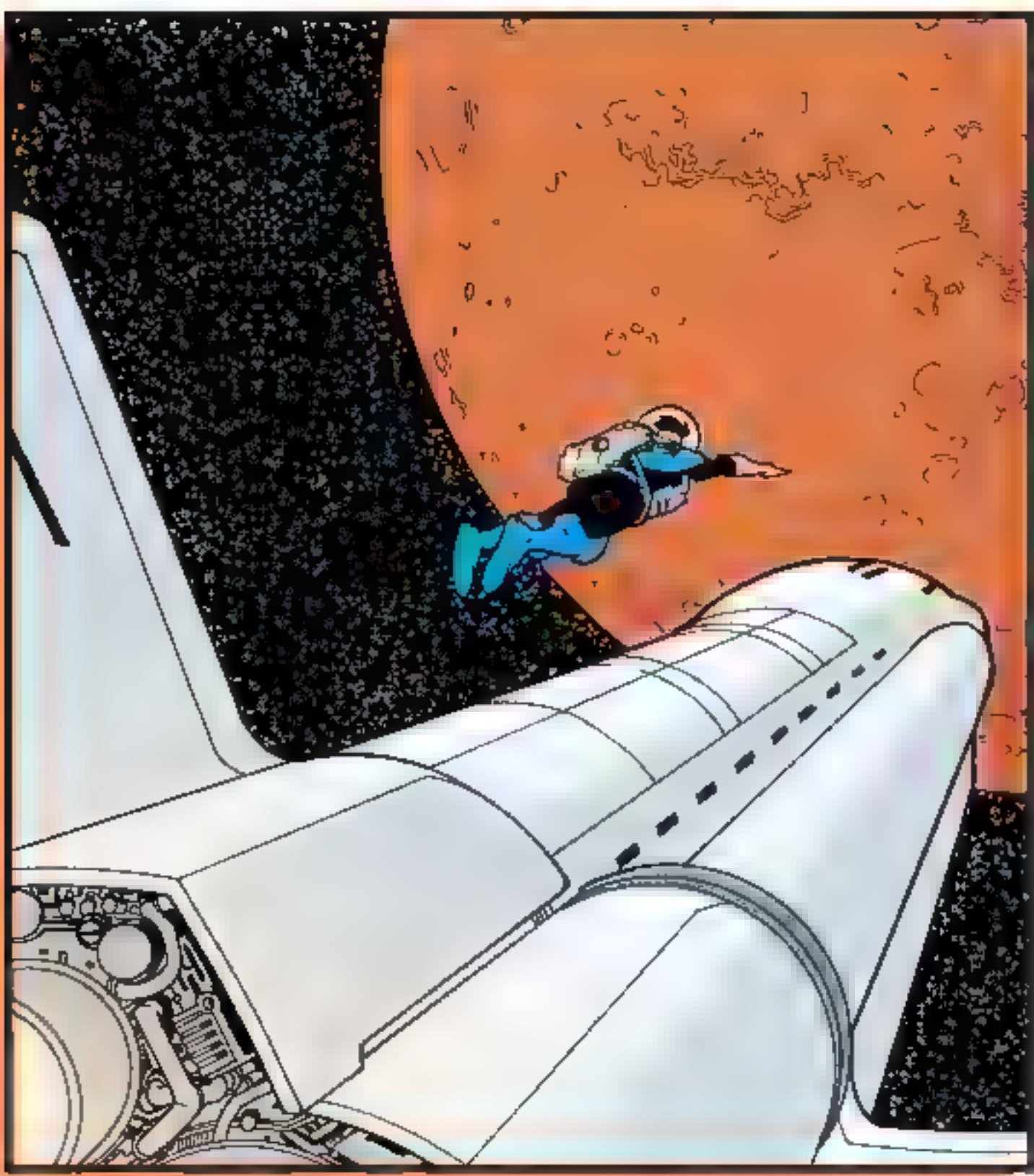
Mark was injured physically and emotionally by his father's betrayal, but his mother was devastated.

A recording of the conversation between Nolan and Mark before their battle was leaked to the media, and Debbie Grayson had to listen to every painful word. She became deeply depressed and started drinking to cope with her pain.

Cecil Stedman also oversaw the all new government-sponsored Guardians of the Globe, led by Robot. Much like his father before him, Invincible teamed up with the Guardians of the Globe to defend mankind against threats like a huge alien invasion and an attack by the other dimensional Flaxans. Soon the Guardians roster grew to include young heroes like Rex Splode, Monster Girl, and Dupli-Kate as well as seasoned veterans like Black Samson and the resurrected (again) Immortal.

Mark was becoming more involved with Amber, who wasn't aware of his alter ego and believed Mark's dad died in a car crash. Atom Eve had broken up with her cheating boyfriend Rex Splode and was now dating Mark's friend William, but she clearly had feelings for Mark.

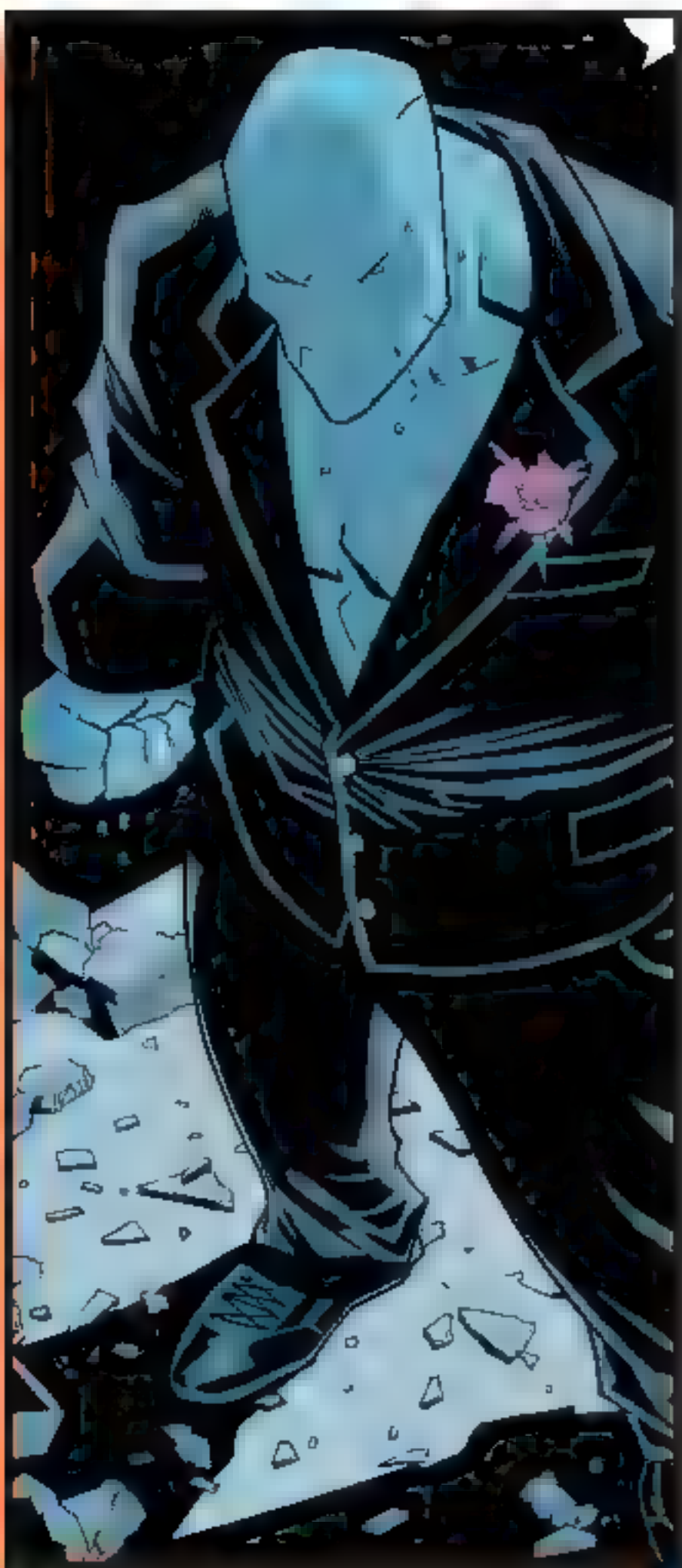
Relationships aside, Mark's solo work for Cecil kept him busy. He battled the super villain Furnace, averted a diplomatic crisis with Atlantis, and even secretly tagged along with a NASA mission to Mars.



On the Mars mission, Mark had to rescue the astronauts from malicious, shape-shifting Martians. These metamorphs ruled an underground empire kept running by Sequids, tentacled creatures that the Martians used as slaves for all manner of work. The shape shifting Martians were immune to the Sequids' ability to possess a host life form and engage their hive mind — without a host the Sequids remained docile.

Unfortunately, the Sequids found a host in astronaut Rus Livingston, who was marooned on Mars when a rebel Martian took his place on the space shuttle departing for Earth. The Sequid hive mind awoke, and a disastrous chain of events began on Mars.

Unbeknownst to Mark, a brilliant scientist named Angstrom Levy was planning to harness his unique power to transit between parallel worlds. Using his powers, Levy freed the hulking geneticist Mauler Twins from prison and hired them to create a device that would allow him to download the knowledge of thousands of his dimensional duplicates directly into his head, giving him total mastery of his powers. They began their work in secret.

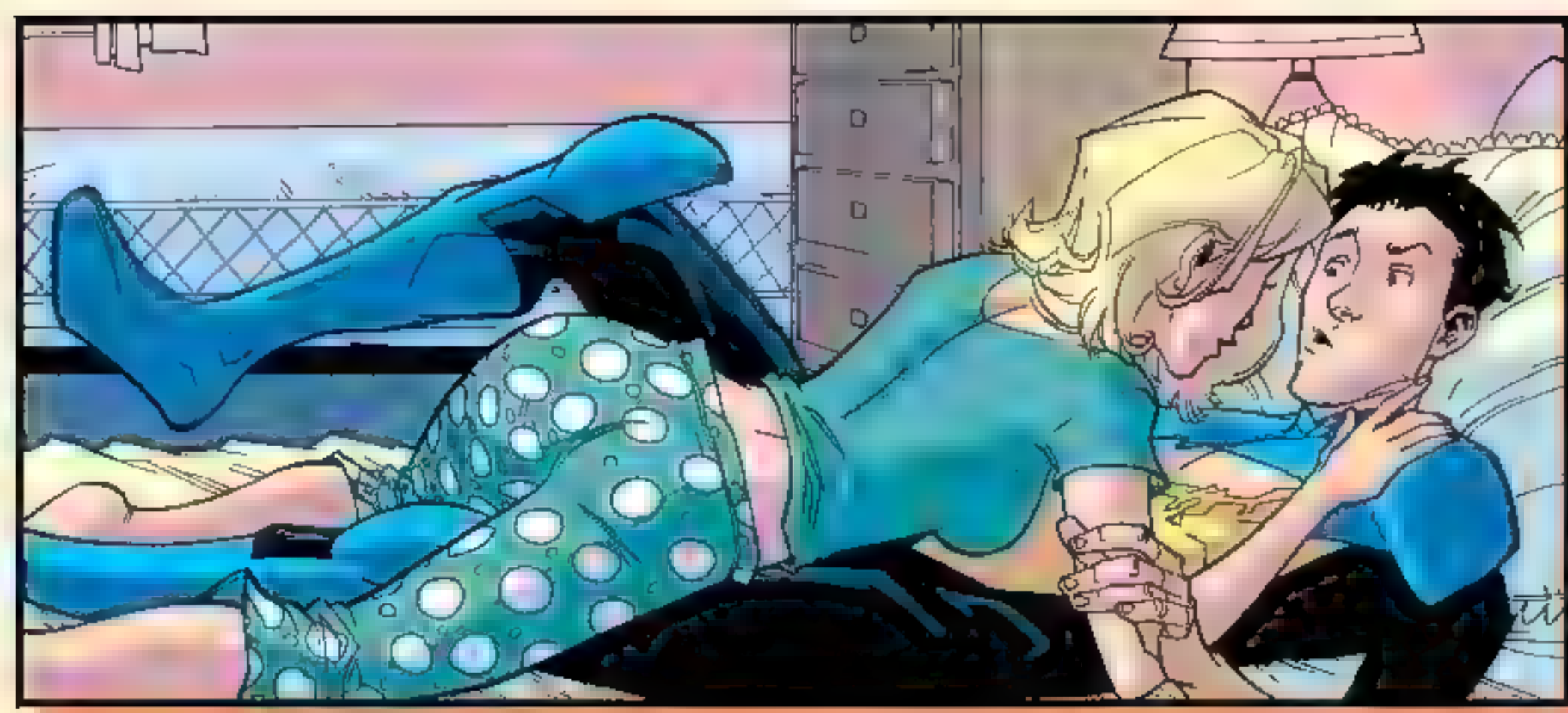


The school year was extended after the aforementioned huge alien invasion trashed the high school, but Mark and his friends finally graduated from high school. As Mark prepared to go to Upstate University in the fall, Amber became increasingly suspicious and frustrated with Mark's lateness and sudden disappearances. Why did Mark have that pager? Where was he always rushing off to? Was he dealing drugs or something?

The super-thug Titan enlisted Invincible's help to help take down Machine Head, the most feared crime boss in the country. When they burst into Machine Head's headquarters, Invincible and Titan were attacked by a squad of supervillains, including Battle Beast, an incredibly powerful feline predator who quickly defeated Mark and most of the Guardians team who showed up to help before teleporting away. Machine Head was captured, but it was later revealed that Titan was manipulating events in order to take over the crime lord's empire.

Atom Eve told Mark that she was retiring as a superhero and was going to use her matter-manipulating powers to use helping people overseas. She left without telling Mark how she really felt about him.

Mark started at Upstate University, where he lived on campus with his roommate William. Amber was enrolled in another college that was a two-hour drive away (or a two-minute flight). When Amber visited Mark on campus, one of the zombie cyborg Reani-Men went on a rampage. Mark ducked out to change into Invincible, and although he saved Amber from the Reani-Man, to her it looked as if Mark had abandoned her in the panic. Amber was furious and hurt. Mark knew that if he wanted to stay with her he had to tell her everything. So he did.



Shortly thereafter Cecil directed Invincible to take down the fugitive Mauler twins, who had just reached the climax of their work with Angstrom Levy. As Levy hooked himself up to a huge machine and began the process of absorbing the knowledge of thousands of Angstrom Levys from other dimensions, Mark burst into their secret lab.

Levy summoned a mob of Maulers from other Earths to keep Invincible occupied while the download continued. The horde of villains overpowered Mark and began beating him to death. Levy was amoral but not a murderer – he wanted no part in Invincible’s death. He detached himself from the device to stop the Maulers, and in doing so Levy accidentally triggered a huge explosion that destroyed the device and killed all the Mauler clones. The process was a partial success, but at a horrible cost — Angstrom Levy was grievously injured, deformed, and quite mad. He vowed revenge on Invincible, then slunk off to another dimension to heal.



Mark was then visited by an emissary from the Mantis Race, alien insectoids with a very short life span who needed his help defending their planet. Despite Cecil Stedman’s protests, Mark decided to travel back to the Mantis Planet with the emissary and help out. It was there that Mark met the ruler of the Mantis Race.

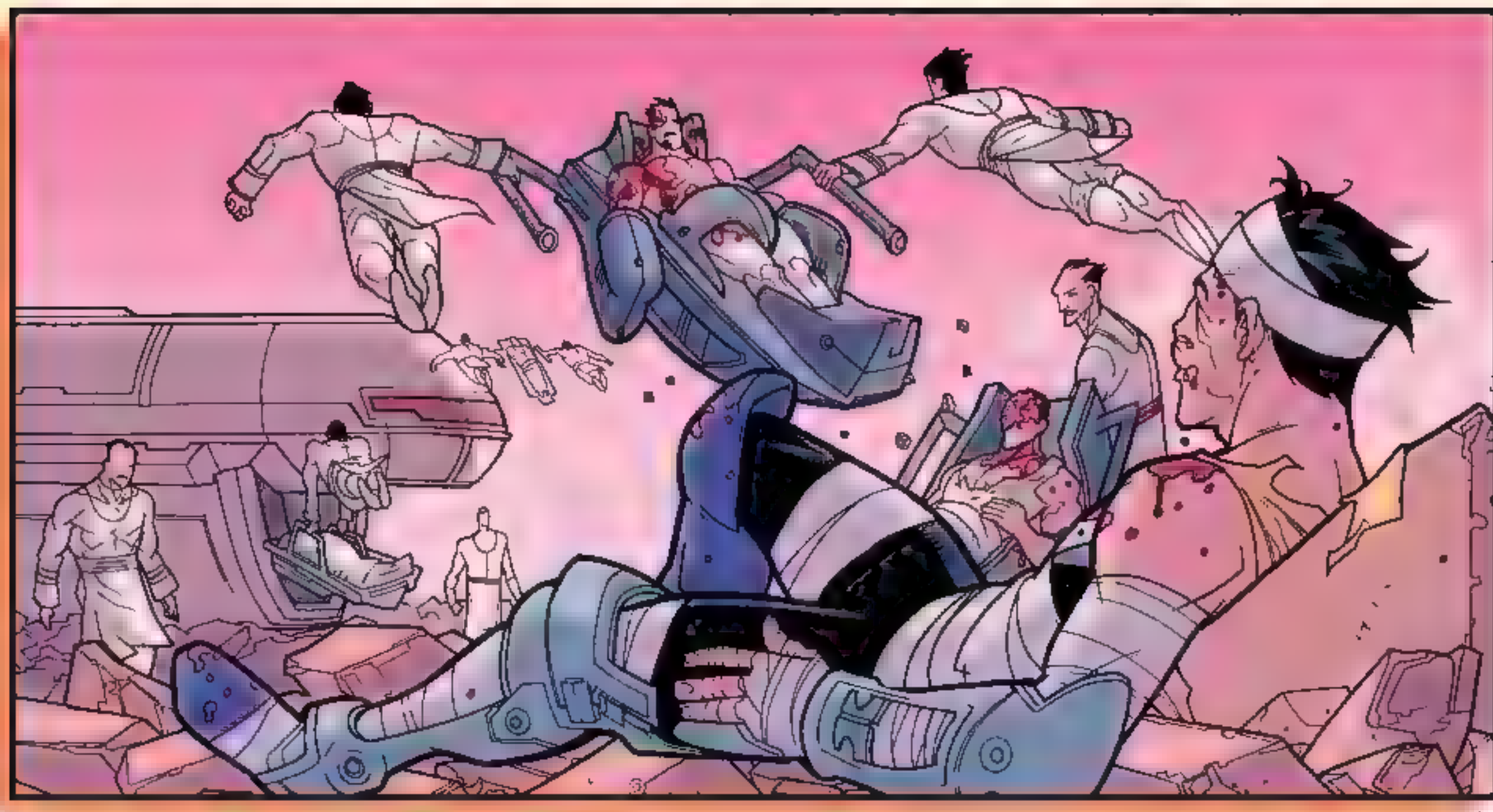
His father.

Thinking that his Viltrumite superiors might look more kindly on him abandoning his original post if he presented the empire with an alternate prize, Nolan decided to “adopt” this planet. As the most elder being by far, the Mantis people made Nolan their supreme leader. Nolan married a local girl and had a son, a purple-skinned boy who was growing up incredibly fast.

Mark was torn with conflicting emotions — anger at his father’s betrayal and happiness to see him again. Their reunion was not an entirely happy one, however, for Nolan had summoned Mark to his planet to help defend their own people. Viltrum had found him.

They sent three of them — Viltrumite warriors. The superpowered aliens destroyed huge sections of Mantis civilization, killing thousands. Mark and Nolan battled the Viltrumites across the globe, but ultimately they were overcome. As the Viltrumites took the injured Nolan away, he told his son, “Read my books, Mark.”

The Viltrumites, who respect strength above all else, were grudgingly impressed with Mark’s performance. They named Mark the temporary designated Viltrumite agent of Earth and gave him a hundred years to prepare the planet for takeover. If he failed in this task, he would be executed.



Mark returned to Earth with his purple half-brother, who he foisted upon his mother to raise. Amber was upset — Mark had been gone in space for two months. Being the girlfriend of a superhero was proving to be more stressful than either had anticipated.

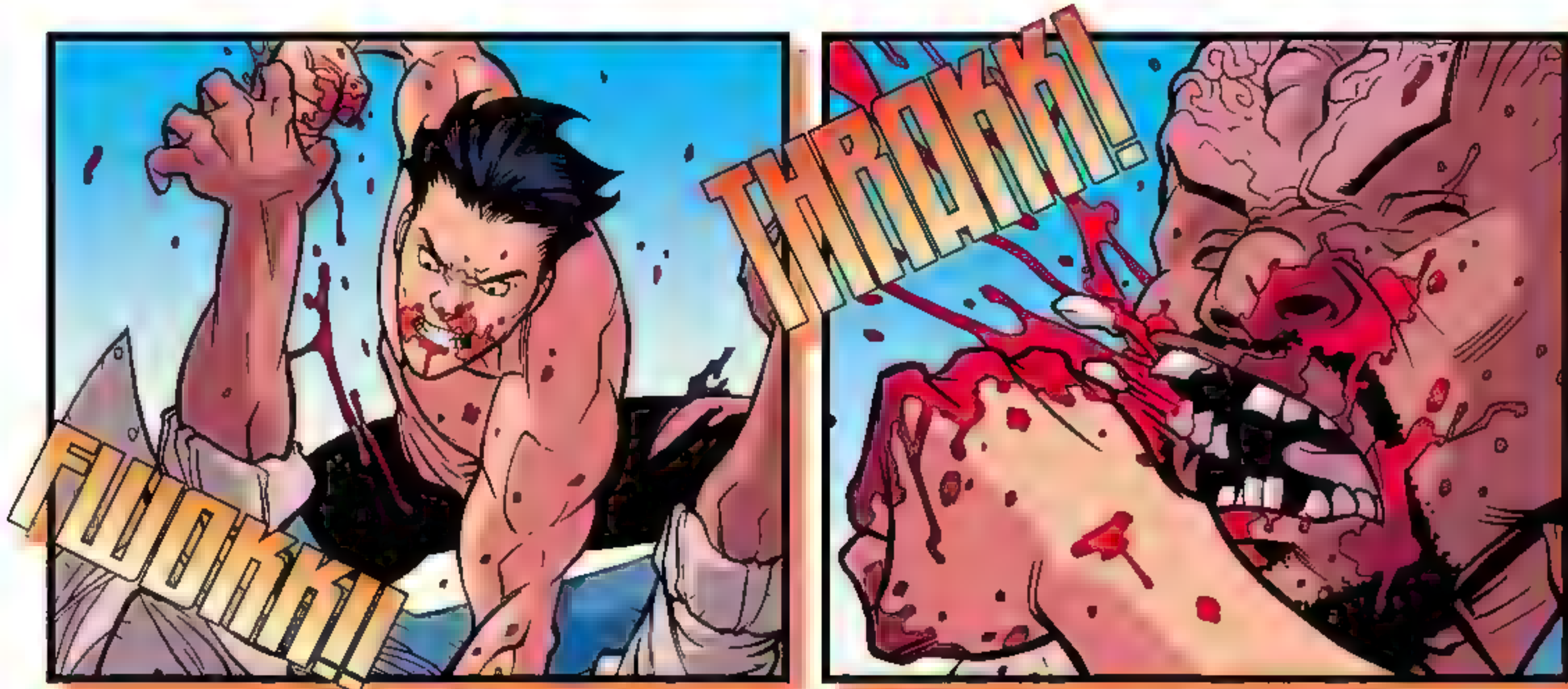
To make it up to Amber, Mark took her on a vacation to Atom Eve's new home in Africa. Although Atom Eve was jealous of Mark's

relationship with Amber, she was happy to see him. But Mark's African sojourn was cut short by a sinister phone call from his mom's house.

Angstrom Levy had his mother and his brother.

Mark rocketed across the Atlantic and confronted Levy, now a deformed and twisted master of transdimensional travel. While he held Debbie Grayson and Mark's half-brother hostage, Levy cast Mark through a gauntlet of dangerous dimensions hand-picked by Levy to wear him down. Mark bounced through alternate worlds full of dinosaurs, zombies, other heroes, giants, and monsters.

Finally Mark managed to grab hold of Levy and pull himself back into his home dimension. Levy had hurt his mom; when Mark saw her badly broken arm, he freaked out. He tumbled with Levy through a portal into a post-apocalyptic wasteland, where the deranged genius physically attacked him with newly acquired super-strength. Now that he had worn Mark down, he intended to exact his revenge by killing him with his bare hands.



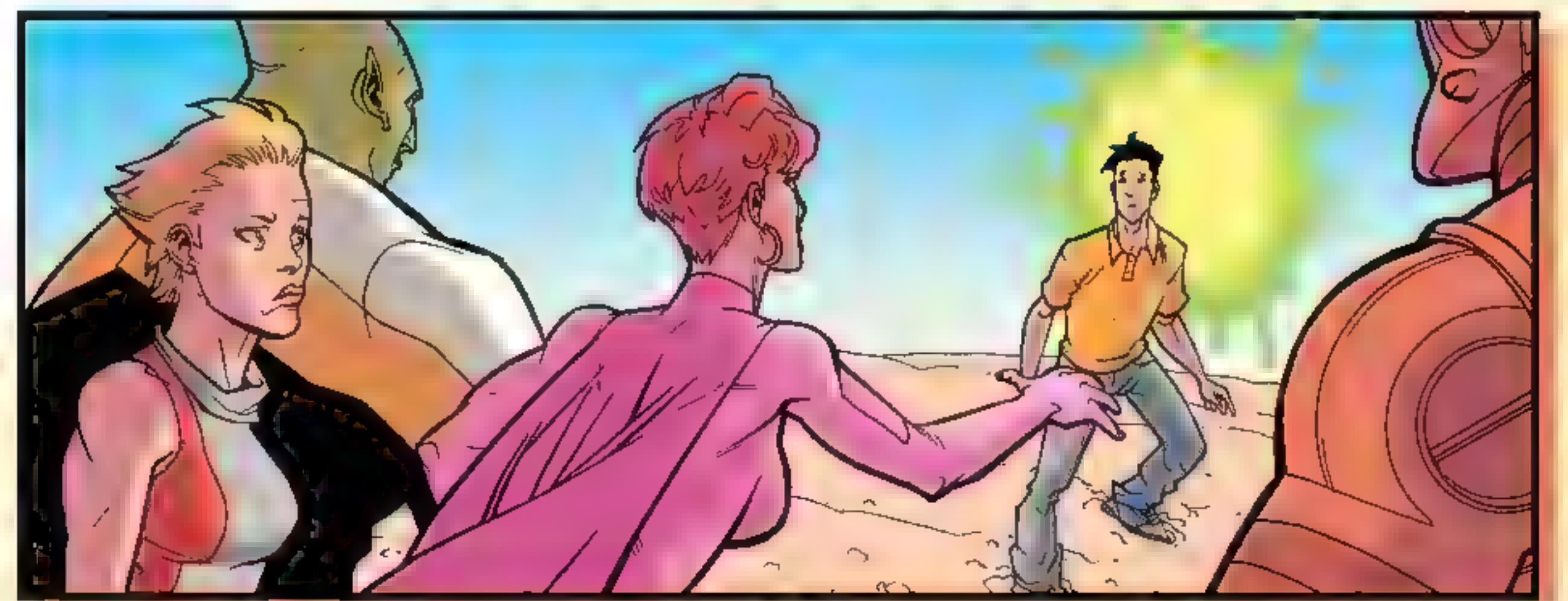
Furious, Mark punched Levy. Again, and again, and again. It took him a moment to realize that he was covered with blood — Mark had overestimated Levy's toughness and had accidentally beaten the villain to death.

In shock, Mark staggered around the lifeless world Levy had stranded him

on. Fortunately, a Guardians of the Globe team from the future, including an older Atom Eve, rescued Mark and sent him back to his home dimension — but not before this Atom Eve from the future declared her love for Mark and urged him to tell the Atom Eve of his time how he felt.

Now Mark had to decide between a normal life with Amber, or a life of superhero romance with Atom Eve.

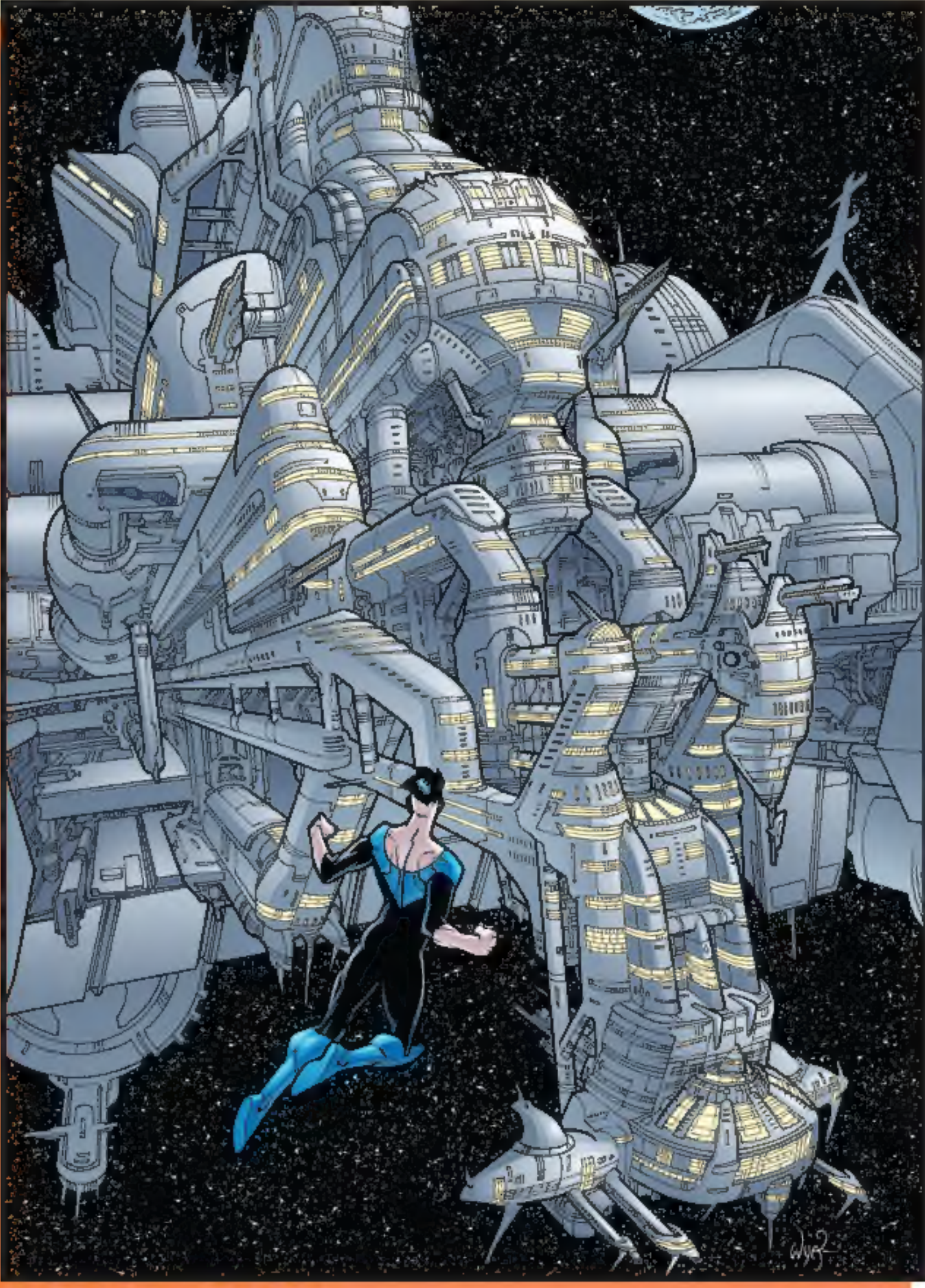
While he was bitching about his romantic woes to the tailor Art, Mark mentioned that on the Mantis Planet Nolan had said "Read my books" as the Viltrumites hauled him away. Mark thought his dad only wrote travel books, but Art produced a forgotten series of pulp sci-fi books Nolan had written when he was younger. As Mark looked through his dad's books, he realized that they may contain information about how to beat the Viltrumites!



Meanwhile, the Martian who had impersonated astronaut Rus Livingston on the return flight of the Mars shuttle decided that his shape-shifting powers would be best put to use as the morphing superhero

Shapesmith. He concocted a fake origin story about unauthorized NASA testing and had soon earned a spot on the Guardians of the Globe.

When a gigantic space warship showed up heading for Earth, Shapesmith had to come clean to Cecil Steadman and the Guardians about his true identity. The Sequids found a solid host on Mars in marooned astronaut Rus Livingston and re-awakened the hive mind. Millions of Sequids woke from their mindless state and took over the Martian warship — now they were heading for Earth, a planet with an abundance of hosts.



Cecil Stedman interrupts a spur of the moment kiss between Mark and Eve by issuing a red alert. Stedman assembles Invincible, Atom Eve, and a select strike team of Guardians intercepted the Martian battleship and battled the possessed Rus Livingston and endless waves of Sequids. In a desperate battle, the heroes managed to neutralize the Sequids and rescue Livingston.

Back on Earth, Mark had a tough decision to make. He and Amber mutually decided to break up; the strains of a superhero lifestyle were too great.

Now, Mark is opening a new chapter of his life. Will he ever get together with Atom Eve? Is the Sequid threat to Earth truly over? What about his purple half-brother Oliver, who is growing at an insane rate? And when will the Viltrumites reappear?

One thing is certain — whatever threats this world faces — Mark Grayson will be there to stop them — no matter the cost. He's Invincible.



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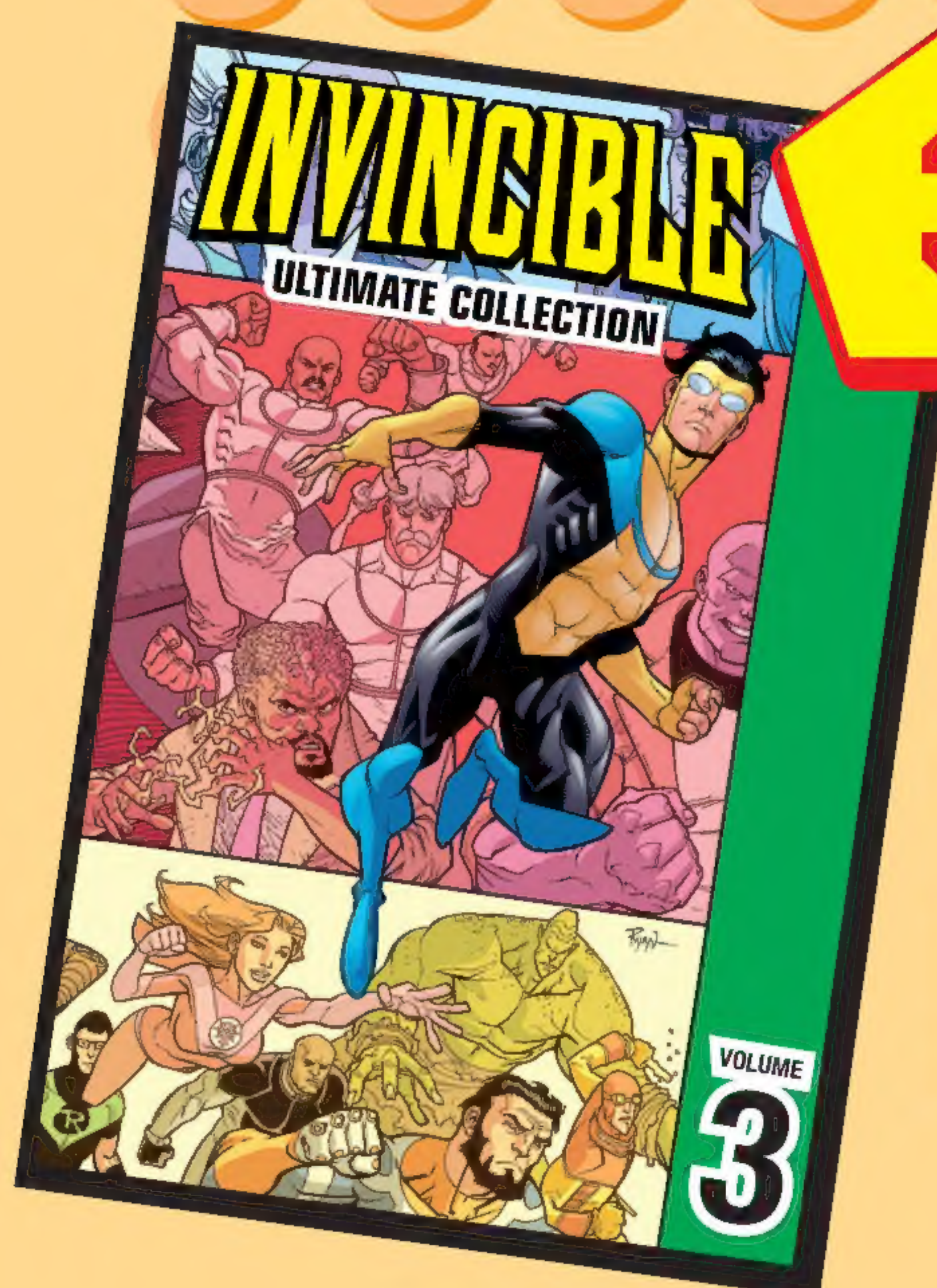
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